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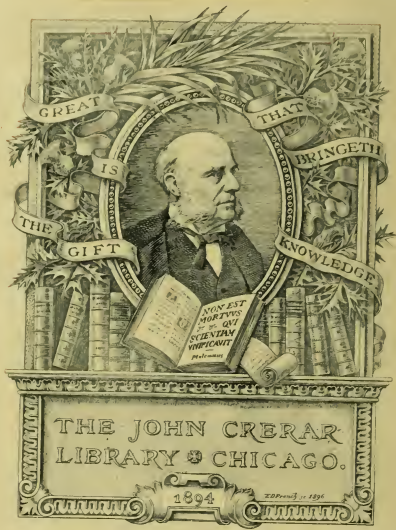

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THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

St. Joseph Free Public Library

1892/
1893

LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA

OFFICERS.

REV. H. L. FOOTE, President.

GEO. C. HULL, Treasurer.

H. G. GETCHELL, Secretary.

DIRECTORS.

REV. H. L. FOOTE.
E. B. NEELY.
G. W. HENDLEY.
B. NEWBURGER.
JOHN DeCLUE.
GEO. C. HULL.
BARTON PITTS.
C. M. SHULTZ.
H. G. GETCHELL.

H. L. ELMENDORF, Librarian.

LULU C. SENTER, First Assistant Librarian.

CORNELIA L. RATHBUN,
ANNIE M. PERRY,
MATTIE L. HENDLEY,
} Assistant Librarians.

DAVID McKINNEY, Janitor.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

REPORT OF DIRECTORS OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

To the Honorable Common Council of the City of St. Joseph.

GENTLEMEN: In presenting to you the annual report of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, I herewith hand you copies of the annual reports of the Standing Committees, the Treasurer and Librarian, making them part of this report.

I take pleasure in reporting every department of the Library in excellent order and condition.

The Librarian's report gives the statistics of the contents and the use of the Library during the year. The new books added have been carefully selected and are of a character to give permanent value to the collection. While our people read mostly for recreation and amusement, and while new books of fiction are added, and this department kept right up to date, the Library is not merely a collection of novels, but contains many of the best standard works in the arts, sciences, philosophy, history and biography. The educational influence of the Library is constantly borne in mind by those in charge of its affairs and every effort made to increase its usefulness in this direction.

I desire to call special attention to the concluding part of the Librarian's report and to emphasize his suggestions in regard to the improvement needed in the Library rooms.

You are doubtless aware that a proposition has been made by Dr. J. Francis Smith on his own behalf and that of the other Smith heirs to give to the city a quit-claim of Smith's Park for site for a library building and also offering to assist in a popular subscription for the purpose to which others have expressed a willingness to subscribe. The desirability of the location will, I feel sure, commend itself to your honorable body, as well as the great advantage to the public of a library building of its own suited to its work.

Your wisdom will suggest such action as will give this movement official sanction and secure the successful accomplishment of the desired result.

Respectfully submitted for the Board of Directors.

H. L. FOOTE,
President.

STATE OF MISSOURI }
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN, } ss.

Before me, the third day of June, 1893, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared H. L. Foote, President of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, and made oath that the figures in Librarian's Annual Report relating to receipts and expenditures, contents of library and books added are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal this sixth day of June, A. D. 1893. My term expires 13 December, 1894.

[SEAL.] JOHN DONOVAN,
Notary Public.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

To the Board of Directors Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN:—At the close of the year, April 30, 1893, the library contained 9,713 volumes, as follows:

Circulating Department	7,812
Reference	708
Government	1,193
Total	9,713

There have been withdrawn during the year 110 books, as follows:

Worn Out	95
Lost and Paid for	12
Missing	3
Total	110

Sixteen hundred and ninety-two books have been added as follows:

By Donations	70
By Serials Bound	125
By Purchase	1,497
	1,692

Books added are classified as follows:

Philosophy, Religion, Arts and Sciences	167
General Literature, Poetry and Drama	148
Travel and Description	40
Biography	110
History	149
Bound Serials	125
German	46
Fiction and Juveniles	827
Reference Library	80
Total	1,692

The circulating department has been open every day during the year with the exception of Sundays and holidays, a total of 305 days. The total number of books drawn for home use was 92,713, a monthly average of 7,726, and a daily average of 304. Particulars of the circulation and classification of books drawn are given in Appendix A.

Some comparison of our circulation with that of other libraries may be of interest, I quote from the second annual report of the Jersey City Free Public Library: "The circulation for home reading, 345,096, or nearly two volumes to each inhabitant, is larger in proportion to population than any other library in the United States. The nearest approach to these figures has been made at Minneapolis, Minn., where 1.7 volumes per inhabitant were distributed. Newark follows with 1.5 and Detroit with 1.3, while in Chicago and Baltimore, the rate was about 1 volume each." The rate for our library is 1.77 per inhabitant, thus placing it second from the figures given.

A comparison of the rates of number of volumes in the library to the total circulation gives us the same position, although the test may not be a fair one, as our number

of books is so much smaller than the other libraries named. The following figures are taken from the most favorable and latest reports now at hand and speak for themselves:

	Volumes	Circulation	Each Book Out
Jersey City, N. J	30,845	345,096	11.18
St. Joseph Mo	9,713	92,714	9.55
Allegheny, Penn	22,232	197,502	8.88
Los Angeles, Cal	29,389	233,363	7.82
Dayton, Ohio	30,996	96,200	3.11
Detroit, Mich	115,661	315,888	2.73
Providence, R. I	62,776	86,891	1.38

January 1, 1893, a delivery station was opened at the office of the *Daily News*. This was done in an effort to extend the privileges of the library to some who found the present location inconvenient. It was rendered possible through the kindness of Mr. Clinton M. Shultz, who takes the books to and from the library each day, receives and delivers them without expense to the Board. This delivery station has been open 73 days, and a total of 812 books exchanged, a daily average of 11. The number is much smaller than was expected when the station was started, but as a careful count shows that about 150 different people take books in this way, it is thought to be of considerable advantage to the Library, and is conducted without expense. The books are returned to the Library at 12:30 p. m., exchanged and taken to the delivery station at 4 p. m. each day.

No account can be given of the number of books consulted in the reference department, as both room and shelves are open to the public without restriction. The number of borrowers' cards in force at the commencement of the year was 3,825; cards issued and renewed, 1,561; total 5,386; expired and cancelled, 1,546; total in force April 30, 1893, 3,840.

The receipts and expenditures for the year have been as follows:

Balance in City Treasury, May 1, 1892		$ 889 36
City Appropriation		6,981 70
		$ 7,871 06
Salaries, Librarians and Assistants	$ 3,047 26	
Janitor	240 00	
Printing Catalogue	232 50	
Stationary, Printing and Supplies	179 95	
Postage and Express	24 91	
Miscellaneous	99 25	
Rent	600 00	
Insurance	75 00	
Repairs	70 49	
Books	1,328 98	
Periodicals	222 40	
Binding	478 75	
Furniture	140 64	
	$ 7,020 08	7,020 08
Balance in City Treasury May 1, 1893		$ 850 98

Treasurer's report shows:

Balance April 30, 92		$ 143 10
Received from Secretary and Librarian		302 50
Balance on hand April 30, 1893		$ 445 60
May 1, 1892, Balance in Librarian's hands	$ 5 58	
Received from Fines	309 19	
Extra Volumes	5 30	
Catalogues Sold	58 20	
Books Lost and Paid for	16 20	
Damaged Books, Extra Cards and all other Receipts	59 96	
	$ 454 43	$ 454 43
Deposited with Secretary and Treasurer	$ 302 50	
Vouchers for Incidentals not yet paid by City	96 22	
Incidentals March 1893	12 90	
Incidentals April 1893	10 82	
	$ 422 44	422 44
May 1, 1893, balance on hand		$ 31 99

One hundred and twenty-five volumes of magazines have been bound, and eight hundred and four books rebound at an expense of $458 75. This number is very large, but includes an accumulation from the year before.

A classified list of the books in the circulating department was published October 1, 1892, consisting of a single entry of each book under its proper class. Since this publication over a thousand books have been added to this department, and it will soon be necessary to issue a supplement.

The *Library Record*, published monthly independently of the Library by Mrs. L. O. Weakley, prints each month a list of the accessions and furnishes the Library with 1,000 copies for distribution to its patrons. A list of the new books is also printed in the *Daily News* each week.

The reading room is supplied with two daily papers, twenty-four weeklies, two fortnightly and thirty-three monthlies, a list of which is given in Appendix B. The use of this department has been very gratifying.

At the request of the City Council a change was made in the hours of the circulating department, taking effect February 1, 1893. The hour for opening was changed from 10 o'clock to 9 o'clock a. m. At present all departments of the library open at 9 a. m. and close at 9 p. m., except on Sundays when the reading and reference department only are open from 2 to 6 p. m.

The intimate relations existing between the public schools and the Library is a matter for congratulation. Both teachers and scholars, particularly those of the High School, avail themselves of the privileges of the Library to a very large extent. As soon as school closes our delivery and reference rooms are filled with pupils, eager to obtain books recommended by their teachers and to look up subjects given them for study. The location of the library in the immediate vicinity of the High School is of great advantage to both. Some of the teachers have consulted with the Librarian before assigning reading for their scholars, and some have furnished him with lists of books needed for consultation in the studies being pursued. In the latter case such

books as were not already in the Library were promptly purchased by the Board. Every assistance possible is given scholars and teachers by the employes of the Library. The Librarian has invited the co-operation of the teachers in making the library useful and allows them to draw all necessary books for their own use, and in case the number needed exceeds that allowed by the rules, issues the excess on special cards for the purpose in his own name.

Many changes have been made in the system and arrangement of the Library which tend to accuracy in the records and promptness in waiting on the public.

Our reference and reading rooms should be so located as to be under the eye of the library force. Situated as they now are and with the present number of assistants, at all busy times these rooms have to be left entirely alone. It is therefore impossible to maintain that order and quietness which should at all times exist and guard the library property against improper usage. If our present building could be altered by taking out some partitions, it would remove this difficulty as far as the reference department is concerned, besides giving more case room, which will very soon become a necessity. Should the board ever acquire the property for its own, an addition on the North would make space for the circulating department, and the present delivery and case room could be used for reference and reading rooms, and all under proper supervision.

This is an age of great public benefaction, and from all parts of the country come reports of large gifts to public institutions, and among the most prominent are those to free public libraries. The facts and figures in this report show something of the benefit our library is to our people, and I trust that the day is not far distant when some of our wealthy and generous citizens will give the Library a building of its own which will be a credit to our city and a lasting monument to the name and public spirit of the donor.

In conclusion I desire to thank the board, one and all, for the hearty support and encouragement which they have at all times given me in my work.

Respectfully submitted,

H. L. ELMENDORF,
Librarian.

APPENDIX A—CIRCULATION.

Classes	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Total	Per Cent
Philosophy, Religion, Arts and Science ..	257	232	240	231	209	249	261	221	319	288	267	234	3 008	.032
General Literature	344	271	229	260	204	204	253	291	277	268	336	292	3,229	.035
Travel	215	176	142	152	130	144	159	169	217	212	239	163	2,118	.023
Biography	126	96	119	138	83	91	114	116	156	157	161	106	1,463	.016
History	154	138	137	129	106	143	171	143	141	160	226	165	1,813	.020
Serials	211	184	176	200	175	195	209	211	244	244	281	241	2,491	.027
German	206	166	140	129	117	101	141	149	195	219	227	186	1,976	.021
Fiction	6,432	6,135	6,195	7,198	5,674	5.562	6,084	6,097	6,806	6,629	7,159	6,509	76,676	.826
Total	7,945	7,398	7,384	8,437	6,698	6,689	7 392	7,397	8,355	8,177	8,896	7,896	92,714	.100
Library O en Days	25	26	26	27	25	25	25	26	25	23	27	25	305	

Monthly Average 7,726
Daily Average 304

Largest Day, February 11, 1893 612
Smallest Day, December 7, 1892 108

APPENDIX B—GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY.

Donor	Location	Volumes	Pamphlets
American Uniterian Association	Boston, Mass	41	
Apprentices Library	Philadelphia, Pa		2
Bronson Library	Waterbury, Conn		2
Brooklyn Library	Brooklyn, L. I		3
Campbell, C. L	St. Joseph, Mo	16	12
City of St. Joseph	St. Joseph, Mo		1
City Library Association	Springfield, Mass		1
Crunden, Fred M	St. Louis, Mo		1
Dayton Public Library	Dayton, Ohio		1
Detroit Public Library	Detroit, Mich		1
Enoch Pratt Free Library	Baltimore, Md		1
Free Public Library	Council Bluffs, Ia		1
Free Public Library	New Haven, Conn		1
Free Public Library	Taunton, Mass		1
Gordon, H. L	Chicago, Ills	1	
Joseph Lodge I. O. B. B	St. Josepn, Mo	2	
Lawrence Public Library	Lawrence, Mass		1
Library Company	Philadelphia, Pa		1
Los Angeles Public Library	Los Angeles, Cal		1
Mercantile Library	Milwaukee, Wis		2
Michau, J. T	St. Joseph, Mo		1
Minneapolis Public Library	Minneapolis, Minn		1
Penick, Mrs. W. R	St. Joseph, Mo		12
Providence Public Library	Providence, R. I		1
Public Library	Columbus, Ohio		1
Robinson, Ernest G	St. Joseph, Mo	8	
Rock, C. F	St Joseph, Mo	2	
Scranton Public Library	Scranton, Pa		1
St. Louis Public Library	St. Louis, Mo		1
Toledo Public Library	Toledo, Ohio		1
Toronto Public Library	Toronto, Canada		1
University of Denver	Denver, Col		1
Wilmington Institute	Wilmington, Del		1
Warden Public Library	Springfield, Ohio		1

Bohemian Voice, Omaha, Neb., one copy weekly paper.
Campbell, C. L., St. Joseph, Mo., a very large number of unbound magazines.
Jewish Messenger, New York, one copy weekly paper.
Omaha Daily Bee, Omaha, Neb., one copy daily paper.
Robinson, E. G., St. Joseph, Mo., a number of years of the London Illus. News.
St. Joseph Daily News, two copies of daily paper.
St. Joseph Saturday Argus, one copy of weekly paper.

APPENDIX C—PERIODICALS TAKEN BY LIBRARY.

QUARTERLIES	No. Copies
Quarterly Review of Current History	1

MONTHLIES	
American Teacher	1
Art Interchange	1
Atlantic Monthly	3
Arena	1
Blackwood's Magazine	1
Book-Chat	1
Carpenter and Builder	1
Century	4
Cosmopolitan	2
Current Literature	1
Educational Review	1
Eclectic	1
Forum	1
Good Housekeeping	1
Goldthwaite's Geographical Mag	1
Harper's Monthly	4
Library Journal	1
Literary News	1
Lippincott's	3
McMillan's Magazine	1
New England	2
North American Review	3
Outing	1
Overland Monthly	1
Popular Science Monthly	2
Review of Reviews	2
St. Nicholas	3
Scribner's	4
Short Stories	1
Teacher's Institute	1
Wide Awake	1

BI-MONTHLIES	No. Copies
Revue des Deux Mondes	1
Literary World	1

WEEKLIES	
Bohemian Voice. Gift of Pub	1
Forest and Stream	1
Frank Leslie's	1
Harper's Bazar	1
Harper's Young People	1
Harper's Weekly	1
Illustrated American	1
Illustrated London News	1
Journal of Education	1
Jewish Messenger. Gift of Pub	1
Judge	1
Life	1
Literary Digest	1
Littell's Living Age	1
Nation	1
Notes and Queries	1
Publishers Weekly	1
Puck	1
School Journal	1
Scientific American	1
Scientific American, Supplement	1
Youth's Companion	1

DAILIES	
St. Joseph Daily News. Gift of Pub	2
Omaha Daily Bee. Gift of Pub	1

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

It is the duty of this committee, month by month, to report on the lists of books prepared by the Librarian as suitable and desirable to purchase for the Library. It is hardly necessary to recapitulate these reports. They are in a large measure summed up in the report of the Librarian.

We speak with satifaction of the very favorable contract made with the binder. It has resulted in giving us good repairs on our worn books, and very choice additions to Periodical Literature.

(Signed) H. L. FOOTE,
BARTON PITTS,
GEO. C. HULL,
Library Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE.

To the President and Members of the Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.:

GENTLEMEN:—Your Committee on Administration would respectfully submit the following as the annual report required by Art. XII of the By-Laws.

On the 1st of May, 1892, Mr. Culver sent in his resignation as Librarian very unexpectedly, leaving his work in a very unsatisfactory and incomplete condition. There were over 800 volumes in the Accession Room waiting to be catalogued and numbered, and rendered available for public use.

Miss Senter was then appointed Acting Librarian by the Directors, and held that position over two months. During this time, with the assistance of the President, the records were written up, as full a report as possible was prepared for the Board at its annual meeting, and about two hundred books were catalogued and placed on the shelves.

On the first of July, 1892, the Board elected its present Librarian, Mr. H. L. Elmendorf. He assumed the duties of his position July 10, and since that time a distinct advance in the usefulness and efficiency of the Library has been made. The large number of new books which had accumulated during the term of office of the preceding librarian has been entirely disposed of. The more valuable of the magazines received at the Reading Room have been bound and placed in the Reference Room. Much has been done to render the Government books of service to the investigator. Order and system have been introduced into the methods of borrowing and delivering books. Complaints of delay on the part of patrons of the Library have ceased. And it is no mean tribute to the executive ability and courtesy to our Librarian to say, that while he has been exacting in discipline, his best friends are his assistants.

In the latter part of May, Miss Susie Douglas was engaged as a substitute or sub-assistant at $10.00 per month. On the 1st of July Miss Douglas was advanced to the position of regular assistant at $25.00 per month, to serve while the other assistants were allowed their vacations. On the 1st of September Miss Douglas resumed the position and salary of sub-assistant, and on the 1st of December her services were dispensed with, because no longer needed.

A Finding List of all books in the circulating department of the Library was issued during the year, and has been placed on sale at the nominal price of ten cents per copy. No extra force was employed for this work. The Finding List (it hardly deserves the name of catalogue) has proved to be very correct, and, with supplements, will serve the Library for some time.

The books in the Library and its records are in excellent condition, and all new books are now received, catalogued and placed on the shelves without delay.

It gives us pleasure to speak a word of approval of the Assistant Librarians. They have given the Librarian their cheerful and efficient support, are prompt and obliging to the public, and have made a distinct gain in proficiency in their duties and that knowledge of books which enables them to help the reader and student. Each year of experience has added to their value and usefulness to the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) E. B. NEELY,
C. M. SHULTZ,
B. NEWBURGER,
Committee on Administration.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

President and Directors, Free Public Library:

Your Finance Committee respectfully report the examination of the Librarian and Acting Secretary's accounts for the fiscal year ending May 1, 1893. We find the books kept in a clear, concise manner, and correct in balances. We also find a large increase in collections for fines and lost books.

(Signed) JOHN DeCLUE,
Finance Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

President and Directors, Free Public Library:

Your Committee on Buildings and Grounds report a decided improvement in the appearance of the grounds through the kindness of the Park Commissioners, in furnishing plants, and the energy of the Librarian and Janitor devoting their spare time to cleaning up and embellishing them.

We also report the improved condition in the arrangement of book cases, desks and work-rooms. We have added eighteen chairs, seven oak and three pine book cases, and will soon require more. We have increased the heating capacity, and have endeavored to make the employes and public comfortable when in the building.

We are receiving $10.00 per month from rents, thus reducing the Board's rent to $40.00 per month.

(Signed) JOHN DeCLUE,
G. W. HENDLEY,
B. NEWBURGER,
Buildings and Grounds Committee.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Board of Directors

OF THE

Free Public Library.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

MISSOURI PUBLISHING CO.
St. Joseph, Mo.,
1894.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Board of Directors

OF THE

Free Public Library.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

1894.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ST. JOSEPH, MO

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT.....REV. H. FOOTE.
VICE PRESIDENT.....E. B. NEELY.
TREASURER.....GEO. C. HULL.
SECRETARY.....H. L. ELMENDORF.

DIRECTORS:

TERM EXPIRES 1895.
GEO. C. HULL.
C. M. SHULTZ.
DR. BARTON PITTS.

TERM EXPIRES 1896.
REV. H. L. FOOTE.
E. B. NEELY.
G. W. HENDLEY.

TERM EXPIRES 1897.
JOHN DeCLUE.
B. NEWBURGER.
W. H. GORDON.

H. L. ELMENDORF.....LIBRARIAN.
LULU C. SENTER.....ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN.

ASSISTANTS:

CORNELIA L. RATHBUN,
ANNIE M. PERRY.
ERLE H. MERRIMAN.
KALLIOPE RITNER.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAINT JOSEPH.

GENTLEMEN:—I hand you herewith the Fourth Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, including the report of the Librarian and the different standing committees. Statistics of the use and growth of the Library and of receipts and expenditures, will be found in the Librarian's report.

The past year has been the most prosperous in the history of the Library, and I take pleasure in reporting every department in excellent order and condition.

Respectfully submitted for the Board of Directors,

H. L. FOOTE.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN, } ss

Before me, J. C. Hedenberg, a Notary Public, in and for the County aforesaid, personally appeared H. L. Foote, President of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, and made oath that the figures in the Librarian's Annual Report relating to receipts and expenditures, contents of Library, and books added, are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal, this 24th day of May, 1894.

J. C. HEDENBERG,
Notary Public.

My commission expires November 13th, 1897.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTROS OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—GENTLEMEN:—I submit herewith the Fourth Annual Report of the Librarian, and the second I have had the honor of presenting. The last annual report showed the Library to contain 9,713 volumes. During the year there have been added 2188 volumes, as follows:

Donations	105
United States Government	525
Serials bound	198
Purchased	1,360
	2,188

Three hundred and eighty-nine books have been withdrawn, as follows:

Worn out	281
Duplicates returned to U. S. Government	88
Lost and paid for	18
Missing	2
	389

making the net increase for the year, 1,799.

The Library now contains 11,512 volumes, divided as follows:

Reference Department	863
Government Department	1,630
Circulating Department	9,019
	11,512

Books added are classified as follows:

Philosophy, Religion, Arts and Sciences	141
General Literature, Poetry and Drama	81
Travel and Description	55
Biography	66
History	130
Serials bound	198
German	134
General works in Reference Department	53
Fiction and Juveniles	805
Government Publications	525
	2,188

Thirty-five volumes in raised character for the blind have been purchased. There are said to be between twenty and thirty blind people in our city, and we have the names

of thirteen who can read and will avail themselves of this department of the Library. It will be possible to speak more certainly of the success of this venture in the next report, as the department was only opened in April.

The circulating department has been open every day during the year, with the exception of Sundays and holidays, a total of 305 days. 100,924 volumes have been drawn for home use, an increase of 8,211 over the circulation of the previous year. The monthly average has been 8,410, and the daily average 331. Particulars of circulation, and classification of books drawn are given in Appendix A.

With the large increase in circulation, the percentages show that while fiction forms a very large part of the reading of the public, the proportion of more solid works, instead of diminishing, has slightly increased. The most popular books have been "The Prince of India," of which we have ten copies, and "The Heavenly Twins," of which we have eight copies.

There has been a marked increase in the attendance in our reference rooms. No statistics can be given, as the books and shelves are, as heretofore, open to the public without restriction. One of the most attractive and useful features of this department is the bound magazines, made available by Poole's Index and its continuations. Large additions have been made to our files this year, and persistent efforts will be made to complete them. Our Government Department has had a thorough overhauling, and the books have all been checked and arranged by the "List of Congressional Documents." prepared by J. G. Ames, Superintendent of Documents, Department of the Interior. A list of the publications wanted has been sent to the department, and the deficiencies are being supplied as fast as possible.

Our reading rooms are supplied with 1 quarterly, 27 monthlies, 1 semi-monthly, 17 weeklies and 2 dailies, a list of which is given in Appendix B.

The circulation is very large in proportion to the number of books in the Library, and the wear and tear from actual use has been enormous, it has been necessary to have 774 books rebound. Books damaged by accident or carelessness have been charged for and in most cases the damages cheerfully paid by the borrower. It has been necessary to call on guarantors in four cases to make good loss of books, and in each instance the amount has been promptly paid.

Receipts and expenditures for the year have been as follows:

Balance in the City Treasury May 1, 1893		$ 850 98
Deposited by Librarian	$	96 22
City Appropriation		6,926 91
Salaries, Librarian and Assistants	$3.583 86	
Janitor	240 00	
Catalogue	42 50	
Stationery and Printing	85 80	
Postage	10 00	
Miscellaneous	129 65	
Rent	600 00	
Light and Heat	192 95	
Insurance	97 55	
Repairs	23 50	
Furniture	278 55	
Binding	564 40	
Books and Periodicals	1 631 43	
Balance in City Treasury	392 82	
	$7,874 11	$7,874 11

The Treasurer's Report shows:

Balance on hand, May 1, 1893	$ 445 60	
Received from Librarian	375 00	
Interest on account	35 16	
	$ 855 76	
May 1, 1893, balance in Librarian's hands	$ 31 99	
Received from City Treasurer for incidentals	96 22	
Received from fine collections	271 90	
Received from catalogues sold	71 10	
Received from extra volumes	8 25	
Received from rents	118 00	
Received from books lost and paid for	18 90	
Received from security deposits	15 00	
Miscellaneous	19 55	
Deposited with City Treasurer		$ 96 22
Deposited with Treasurer		375 00
Incidenta expenses		144 35
Security deposits returned		15 00
Books reported lost, returned		3 25
May 1, 1894, balance on hand		17 09
	$ 650 91	$ 650 91

In October, 1893, a supplement to the Finding List was issued, containing about 1,200 titles, and forming, with the Finding List, a complete, single entry, author catalogue of the circulating department. It will be necessary to publish another supplement during the present year.

The card catalogue furnishes a complete index to the Library with author, title and subject entries.

The "Library Record," published each month by Mr. W. M. Shirley, prints a list of the new books added, and furnishes 1,500 copies for gratuitous distribution at the delivery counter. This is without expense to the Board, and the Library is responsible for none of the contents of the paper, with the exception of the book list. The "Daily News" also prints a list of new books, with numbers, every two weeks.

The value of the Library as a part of the educational system of the city has greatly increased. One hundred and six of the teachers in the Public Schools have cards in the Library, and many have testified to the benefit they have derived from it. The following letter from the Principal of the High School is made part of this report to give some idea of the intimate relations existing between the High School and the Library:

MR. H. L. ELMENDORF, LIBRARIAN, PUBLIC LIBRARY.—DEAR SIR.—In reply to your inquiry regarding the extent to which the pupils of the High School have availed themselves of the advantages afforded by the Public Library, I would say that both teachers and pupils are under the greatest obligation to yourself and to your corps of assistants for aiding them in their studies and researches by placing at their disposal all the resources of the Library. In several instances, when it has been necessary for the members of an entire class or division to consult the same books of references, the Board of Directors has facilitated their labors by providing as many as six or eight copies of the same work.

Not the least among our obligations I consider your kindness in delivering several interesting and instructive lectures on literary and historical subjects.

One of the most tangible and clearly observed results of your co-operation with the teachers of the school is to be seen in the fact that the students are reading a better class of books. Standard works of literature have almost entirely replaced the trivial and trashy works of fiction, in which immature minds sometimes indulge.

Again thanking you for past courtesies, and congratulating you for the progress of the Library under your management, I am Yours truly,

(Signed) C. E. MILLER.

Two hundred and sixty-four pupils in the High School have Library tickets, and the teachers are allowed all the books they need.

Our shelves and case room are becoming very much crowded, and it will soon be necessary to make some alterations in our Delivery and Reference rooms, to accommodate the increasing number of both books and visitors. Our Reference and Reading rooms are still without the supervision they should have, but it is hoped that the proposed changes in arrangement will bring the Reference Department under the constant care of an assistant, without increasing the force.

With commendation to the staff for faithful and efficient services, and thanks to the Board for sympathy and support, of which I trust I shall merit a continuance,

Respectfully submitted, H. L. ELMENDORF, Librarian.

APPENDIX A—CIRCULATION.

Classes.	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Total	Per Cent
Philosophy, Religion, Arts, Sciences	198	169	210	258	201	221	226	230	313	320	363	313	3,022	.030
General Literature, Poetry, Drama	272	158	187	210	189	201	228	265	355	318	378	329	3,090	.031
Travel	159	116	123	164	130	126	155	193	213	200	194	141	1,914	.019
Biography	144	83	69	83	100	128	151	142	165	165	204	149	1,583	.016
History	150	106	91	118	113	200	186	182	233	326	320	176	2,201	.022
Serials	277	166	202	241	244	276	277	292	343	306	342	291	3,257	.032
German	162	121	131	151	149	175	215	245	287	302	317	270	2 525	.025
Fiction and Juveniles	6,656	6,428	6,442	7,267	5,955	5,794	6,383	6,927	7,674	7,748	8,640	7,418	83,332	.825
Total	8,018	7,347	7,455	8,492	7,081	7,121	7,821	8,476	9,583	9,685	10,758	9,087	100,924	1.000
Days Library Open	26	26	24	27	25	26	25	25	26	23	27	25	305	——

Monthly Average, 8,410.

Daily Average, 331.

Largest Circulation in one day, February 10, 1894, 737.

Smallest Circulation in one day, September 4, 1893, 131.

APPENDIX B.

LIST OF PERIODICALS TAKEN BY THE LIBRARY.

QUARTERLY.

1 Current History.

MONTHLIES.

1 Arena.
1 American Teacher.
1 Art Interchange.
3 Atlantic Monthly.
1 Blackwood's.
5 Century.
5 Cosmopolitan.
2 Current Literature.
1 Educational Review
2 Forum.
1 Goldthwaite's Geographical Magazine.
1 Good Housekeeping.
5 Harper's.
1 Ladies' Home Journal.
1 Library Journal.
3 Lippincott's.
1 Macmillan's.
2 New England.
2 North American Review.
1 Outing.
1 Overland.
2 Popular Science Monthly.
2 Review of Reviews.
3 St. Nicholas.
5 Scribner's.
1 Der Techniker. (Gift of Publisher).

SEMI-MONTHLIES.

1 Revue des Deux Mondes.

WEEKLIES.

1 Frank Leslie's.
1 Harper's Bazar.
1 Harper's Weekly
1 Harper's Young People.
1 Illustrated American.
1 Illustrated London News.
1 Journal of Commerce. (Gift of Pub.)
1 Journal of Education.
1 Judge.
1 Life.
1 Littell's Living Age.
1 The Nation.
1 Perris New Era. (Gift of Pub.)
1 Publisher's Weekly.
1 Puck.
1 School Journal.
1 Scientific American.
1 Scientific American Supplement.
1 Youth's Companion.

DAILIES.

1 Omaha Bee. (Gift of Pub.)
2 St. Joseph Daily News. (Gift of Pub.)

APPENDIX C.

GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY.

DONOR.	LOCATION.	Vol.	Pam.
American Printing House for the Blind	Louisville, Ky		1
Apprentices' Library	Philadelphia, Pa		2
Boston Public Library	Boston, Mass		2
Broadhurst, Prof. C. N	Independence, Mo	2	
Brooklyn Library	Brooklyn, N. Y		1
Chicago Public Library	Chicago, Ills		3
Christ Church Parish	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
City Library Association	Springfield, Mass		1
Civil Service Reform Association	New York City, N. Y		1
Dayton Public Library	Dayton, O		1
Detroit Public Library	Detroit, Mich		1
Eldridge, D	Boston, Mass		1
Enoch Pratt Free Library	Baltimore, Md		1
Fletcher Free Library	Burlington, Vt		1
Free Public Library	Council Bluffs, Ia		2
Free Public Library	Lawrence, Mass		5
Free Public Library	Jersey City, N. J		1
Free Public Library	New Haven, Conn		1
Free Public Library	Patterson, N J		1
Foote, Rev. H. L.	St. Joseph, Mo		3
Grand Rapids Public Schools	Grand Rapids, Mich		1
Harvard University	Cambridge, Mass		1
Iowa State Library	Des Moines, Ia	1	
Indian Rights Association	Philadelphia, Pa		6
Joseph Lodge, I. O. B. B	St. Joseph. Mo	3	
Library Association	Portland, Ore		2
Library Company	Philadelphia, Pa		1
Los Angeles Public Library	Los Angeles, Cal		4
Mercantile Library	New York City, N. Y:		2
Mercantile Library	Philadelphia. Pa		3
Merriman, E. H	St. Joseph, Mo	2	
Milwaukee Public Library	Milwaukee, Wis		5
Minneapolis Public Library	Minneapolis, Minn		1
Missouri State Geological Survey	Jefferson City, Mo	3	4
Missouri Secrtary of State	Jefferson City, Mo	1	
Newton Free Library	Newton, Mass		2
Offner, Jules E	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
Omaha Public Library	Omaha, Neb		1
Peabody Institute	Danvers, Mass		1
Perry, Annie M	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
Pollard, J Percival	Chicago, Ills	1	
Public Library	Cleveland, O		
PublicLibrary	Taunton, Mass		2
Schwab, Dr. Isaac		56	2
Scranton Public Library	Scranton, Pa		1
St. Louis Mercantile Library Association	St. Louis, Mo		1
St. Louis Public Library	St. Louis, Mo		1
St. Joseph Public Schools	St. Joseph, Mo		1
Salem Public Library	Salem, Mass		1
Toronto Public Library	Toronto, Canada		1
Turner, Miss Annie	St. Joseph, Mo	1	1
Warren Co. Public Library	Monmouth, Ills		2
Weakley, Mrs. L. O	St Joseph, Mo	32	
United States Government	Washington, D. C	525	30
Y. M. C. A. Training School	Chicago, Ills		1

Der Techniker, Philadelphia. Pa., one copy monthly paper.
Fiegenbaum, Miss Mary, St. Joseph, Mo., a large number of unbound magazines for the blind
Motter, Mrs. W. D. B., St. Joseph, Mo., a large number of unbound magazines.
Omaha Bee, Omaha, Neb., one copy daily paper.
Perris New Era, Perris, Cal , one copy weekly paper.
St Joseph Daily News, St Joseph, Mo., two copies daily paper.
St. Joseph Journal of Commerce, one copy weekly paper.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY;

GENTLEMEN—The twelfth article of your by-laws makes it the duty of the Committee on Administration to submit at the regular meeting of the Board in May of each year a report as to matters under their supervision.

Your committee would, therefore, beg leave to report briefly as follows:

The Librarian and his assistants have discharged their respective duties with fidelity and promptness; the patrons of the Library, although their numbers have been largely increased, have been waited upon promptly and courteously; the students of the High School and of other schools have been afforded special privileges in the selection and use of books, and every effort has been put forth to make the Library of the greatest service possible to the public at large. Your Committee would further report that they have made a special and thorough examination of the Library. They have examined each case and its contents separately, and the arrangements for the circulation of the books and periodicals. The cases and books are in good condition, the books being in as good a state of preservation as their constant use will permit, and the arrangements for the circulation of the books and periodicals are those adopted and in use in the best modern libraries.

Your Committee would report that Mrs. Mattie Foote, one of the assistant librarians, tendered her resignation on the 20th of last February, and at a meeting of the Board held February 22d, Mr. Erle H. Merriman, a sub-assistant, was promoted to the position of regular assistant, and Miss Kalliope Ritner was made sub-assistant.

Respectfully submitted,

E. B. NEELY,
C. M. SHULTZ,
B. NEWBURGER,
Administration Committee.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:

GENTLEMEN—The Committee on Building and Grounds respectfully reports that they have furnished nine oak and three pine cases, and the continual growth of the Library will require more very soon.

We are greatly indebted to the Park Commissioners for an appropriation of plants, which enabled us to beautify the grounds.

We have received $10.00 a month in rents, thus reducing the monthly rental of the Library to $40.00.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN DECLUE,
B. NEWBURGER,
G. W. HENDLEY.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:

GENTLEMEN—Your Committee on Finance respectfully reports that they have examined the books of the Librarian and Acting Secretary, and find them to be correcct. The receipts and expenditures for the year will be found in the Librarian's report.

GEO. C. HULL,
JOHN DECLUE,
Finance Committee.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:

GENTLEMEN—The Committee on Library has carefully examined and approved the lists of books prepared monthly by the Librarian for purchase. Statistics of the growth and use of the Library will be found in the Librarian's report.

Respectfully submitted,

H. L. FOOTE,
GEO. C. HULL,
Library Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT TREASURER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, ST. JOSEPH, MO.

ST. JOSEPH, MO., April 30, 1894.

Balance as per last report	$445 60
Received from Librarian	375 00
Interest on account	35 16
Balance	$855 76

GEO. C. HULL, Treasurer.

Fifth Annual Report

of the

Board of Directors

of the

Free Public Library

Saint Joseph, Missouri.

1895
Combe Printing Company
St. Joseph, Mo

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

Free Public Library

OF

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

May 1, 1895.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

OFFICERS:

ACTING PRESIDENT ..... E. B. NEELY
TREASURER ..... GEO. C. HULL
SECRETARY ..... H. L. ELMENDORF

DIRECTORS:

TERM EXPIRES 1895	TERM EXPIRES 1896	TERM EXPIRES 1897
GEO. C. HULL	E. B. NEELY	JOHN DeCLUE
C. M. SHULTZ	G. W. HENDLEY	B. NEWBURGER
DR. BARTON PITTS	REV. HENRY BULLARD	W. H. GORDON

H. L. ELMENDORF ..... LIBRARIAN
LULU C. SENTER ..... ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

ASSISTANTS:

CORNELIA L. RATHBUN
ANNIE M. PERRY
ERLE H. MERRIMAN
KALLIOPE RITNER

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

To the Honorable, The Common Council of the City of Saint Joseph :

GENTLEMEN : It becomes my duty to submit to you the fifth annual report of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, including the report of the Librarian and the several standing committees.

The library year just closed has been one of great prosperity, and it gives me pleasure to report that the library is steadily increasing in usefulness and popularity. For a detailed account of its condition and operations, I refer you to the accompanying report of the librarian.

The library has experienced a great loss in the resignation and removal from the city of its President, Rev. Henry L. Foote. Mr. Foote was President of the Library Board from its organization until the date of his resignation, January 3rd, 1895. Very much of its efficiency and usefulness is due to his wise and able administration of its affairs. Possessed of great executive ability, liberal and progressive in his views and deeply interested in the success and prosperity of the Public Library, he devoted to it willingly and cheerfully a large portion of his time. His name and memory will be held in high honor for his public-spirited and noble work in promoting the interests of the Free Public Library of Saint Joseph.

Respectfully submitted for the Board of Directors.

E. B. NEELY,
Acting President.

STATE OF MISSOURI }
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN } ss.

Before me, Edward S. Douglas, a Notary Public in and for the County aforesaid, personally appeared E. B. Neely, Acting President of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of Saint Joseph, Missouri, and made oath that the facts and figures in the Librarian's Annual Report relating to receipts and expenditures, contents of Library and books added are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal this 22nd day of May, 1895.

EDWARD S. DOUGLAS,
[SEAL] Notary Public.

My commission expires Oct. 16, 1896.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN :—I submit the fifth annual report of the Librarian, and the third that I have presented.

May 1, 1895, the library contained 12,859 volumes, divided as follows:

Reference Department	1,031
Government Department	1,770
Circulating Department	10,058
	12,859

During the year 1,551 books were added, as follows:

Donations	55
Serials bound	136
U. S. Government	140
Purchased	1,220
	1,551

204 volumes were withdrawn, as follows:

Lost and paid for	15
Worn out	177
Missing	12
	204

The net increase was 1,347.

Books added are classified as follows:

Philosophy, Religion, Arts and Sciences	94
Literature, Poetry and Drama	99
Travel	16
Biography	35
History	141
Bound Magazines	136
German	101
General Works in Reference Department	42
Fiction and Juveniles	747
Government Publications	140
	1,551

Receipts and expenditures for the year have been as follows:

Balance in the City Treasurer, May 1, 1894		$ 392 82
City Appropriation		6,788 97
Salaries, Librarian and Assistants	$ 3,695 00	
Janitor	240 00	
Stationery and Printing	118 79	
Supplement to Catalogue	30 00	
Postage and Express	16 50	
Miscellaneous	117 30	
Heating	176 10	
Insurance	101 20	
Rent	600 00	
Repairs	38 80	
Binding	458 25	
Furniture	118 45	
Books and Periodicals	1,432 76	
Balance in the City Treasury May 1, 1895	35 64	
	$ 7,181 79	$ 7,181 79

Treasurer's Report shows:

Balance as per last report	$ 855 76	
Received from the Librarian	400 00	
Interest on account	51 49	
Balance on hand	$ 1,307 25	
May 1, 1894, Balance in Librarian's hands	17 09	
Fines Collected	361 80	
Catalogues Sold	66 55	
Extra Volumes	7 50	
Miscellaneous	100 32	
Deposited with Treasurer		$ 400 00
Incidental Expenses		130 27
Money Refunded on Lost Books Found		2 25
Balance on Hand		20 74
	$ 553 26	$ 553 26

The circulation for home use was 108,882, an increase over the previous year of 7,958. The average monthly circulation was 9,074, and the daily average 357. The largest day's circulation was 823 volumes, Feb. 23, 1895, and the smallest 118 volumes, Oct. 18, 1894. Particulars of circulation and classification of books drawn are given in Appendix.

Total number of borrowers' cards in force at the end of the year 4,103, an increase of 237.

Six cards have been issued to blind people who have drawn books in raised character, which they are allowed to keep for four weeks. Not as many of this class have taken out cards as we had hoped would do so, but those who have expressed the pleasure and profit they have received, and the Board should feel well repaid for the small outlay made for books of this kind.

In January 40 books selected by the Librarian, with the assistance of the principal, were sent to the Neely School, to be drawn for home use by the scholars. under the supervision of their teachers. In February the same number of books were sent to the Steinacker school. Proper statistics of the use of the books were not secured till March 1st. Since that time the books at the Neely School have been drawn for home use 238 times, and those at the Steinacker school 300 times. I doubt if any other eighty books in the library have been as useful. The experiment made in these schools has proved so successful that I recommend that all the schools at a distance from the Library be supplied with small selections of books as rapidly as we can afford it, provided the co-operation of the teachers can be secured. The labor of keeping trace of the books is reduced to a minimum by the very simplest of records provided by the Library.

A large number of pictures accumulated in the Library have been mounted on stiff paper and sent in portfolios to the schools for the use of the younger scholars. These pictures serve to illustrate history and geography lessons, educate the taste of the little ones and give them pleasure in beautiful things, and have been highly appreciated by both teachers and scholars.

The use of the Reference department has been very gratifying. 915 books have been drawn from the Circulating department for reference use in the building. No other statistics can be given, as the shelves are open to the public without restriction.

The ladies of the Runcie Club have used the Library quite extensively in their studies in Grecian history during the winter. Special books have been purchased

for this course, and references looked up for the topic under consideration from week to week.

The reading room is supplied with 1 quarterly, 27 monthlies, 1 semi-monthly, 19 weeklies and 3 dailies, a list of which will be found in Appendix.

A second supplement to the finding list, containing about 1,300 titles, was issued in April. This will last, with the help of bulletins from time to time, until the close of the present year, when it will be necessary to publish a new list of all the books for circulation.

The "Library Record" was discontinued by the publisher, Mr. W. M. Shirley, in October. In place of it I have published a bulletin of the new books added about every two months. This costs about $7.50 for each issue, and is much more satisfactory to the patrons of the Library than the Record, which printed with the list of books much matter they cared little for.

A list of 100 good novels published in December has been influential in improving the class of novels read.

The assistants have been faithful and efficient. Thanking the Board for its interest and support, and congratulating it on a successful year's work.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. L. ELMENDORF,
Librarian.

TABLE OF CIRCULATION.

Classes	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Total	Per Cent.
Philosophy, Religion, Arts and Sciences	304	261	284	271	252	274	264	285	325	348	325	311	3504	.032
General Literature, Poetry and Drama	261	281	201	240	217	250	280	292	369	326	319	259	3295	.030
Travel	147	119	124	106	130	148	135	131	167	164	171	154	1696	.015
Biography	143	104	75	74	105	149	140	126	149	177	185	196	1623	.014
History	167	150	160	172	122	189	181	175	209	230	266	217	2238	.022
Serials	328	342	300	321	266	318	336	339	377	345	377	332	3981	.036
German	250	253	243	267	267	260	250	326	371	332	301	239	3359	.023
Fiction and Juveniles	7389	7377	7989	8152	7552	6649	6691	7198	7799	7225	8224	6931	89176	.818
Total	8989	8887	9376	9603	8911	8237	8277	8872	9766	9147	10168	8639	108882	1.000
Days Open	26	26	25	27	23	27	25	25	26	23	26	26	305	

Daily average, 357.
Monthly average, 9074.
Largest day, February 23rd, 1895, 823.
Smallest day, October 18th, 1894, 118.

LIST OF PERIODICALS TAKEN BY THE LIBRARY.

QUARTERLY.

1 Cyclopædic Review of Current History.

MONTHLY.

1 American Teacher.
2 Arena.
1 Art Interchange.
3 Atlantic.
1 Blackwood's.
6 Century.
4 Cosmopolitan.
2 Current Literature.
1 Eclectic.
1 Educational Review.
2 Forum.
1 Good Housekeeping.
6 Harper's.
1 Ladies' Home Journal.
1 Library Journal.
3 Lippincott's.
1 Macmillan's.
3 Munsey's.
2 New England.
2 North American Review.
1 Outing.
1 Overland.
2 Review of Reviews.
3 St. Nicholas.
4 Scribner's.
1 Der Techniker (Gift of Pub.)

SEMI-MONTHLY.

1 Dial.

WEEKLY.

1 Catholic Review (Gift)
1 Harper's Bazar.
1 Harper's Weekly.
1 Harper's Young People.
1 Illustrated American.
1 Illustrated London News
1 Journal of Education.
1 Judge.
1 Leslie's Weekly.
1 Life.
1 Littell's Living Age.
1 Nation.
1 Perris New Era (Gift of Pub.)
1 Publishers' Weekly.
1 Puck.
1 School Journal.
1 Scientific American.
1 Scientific American Supplement.
1 Young People's Weekly (Gift of Pub.)
1 Youth's Companion.

DAILY.

2 Daily News (Gift of Pub.)
1 Omaha Bee (Gift of Pub.)
1 West Superior Leader (Gift of Pub.)

GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY.

Donor	Location	Vols.	Pamphlets.
Apprentices' Library Company	Philadelphia, Pa.		1
Bohemian Benevolent Society		1	
Brooklyn Library	Brooklyn, N. Y.		2
Buchanan County Clerk	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
Campbell, C. W	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
City Comptroller	St. Joseph, Mo	1	1
City Library Association	Springfield, Mass		2
Cliff, Miss F. H	St. Joseph, Mo	9	
DeBarthe, Joseph	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
Enoch Pratt Free Library	Baltimore, Md		3
Fletcher Free Library	Burlington, Vt		1
Foote, Rev. H. L	St. Joseph, Mo	7	3
Free Public Library	Jersey City, N. J		11
Free Public Library	New Haven, Conn		2
Free Public Library	Paterson, N. J		1
Friends' Association	Philadelphia, Pa		1
Grand Rapids Public Schools	Grand Rapids, Mich		1
I. O. B. B., Joseph Lodge	St. Joseph, Mo	3	
Illinois State Historical Asso'n			1
Indian Rights Association	Philadelphia, Pa		14
Keener, Dr. H. N	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
Leonard, Dr. P. I	St. Joseph, Mo		1
Library Association	Portland, Ore		18
Library Company	Philadelphia, Pa		1
Mercantile Library	Philadelphia Pa		4
Mercantile Library	New York City, N. Y		1
Missouri State Departments	Jefferson City, Mo	13	6
National Association of Letter Carriers, Branch 195	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
Neumaerker, Rev. R	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
Peabody Institute	Danvers, Mass		1
Pitts, Dr. Barton	St, Joseph, Mo	10	
Public Library	Boston, Mass		1
Public Library	Chicago, Ill		2
Public Library	Cleveland, O		1
Public Library	Council Bluffs, Ia		1
Public Library	Dayton, O		1
Public Library	Detroit, Mich		1
Public Library	Indianapolis, Ind		2
Public Library	Lawrence, Mass		4
Public Library	Lynn, Mass		2
Public Library	Milwaukee, Wis		4
Public Library	Minneapolis, Minn		1
Public Library	Providence, R. I		3
Public Library	St. Louis, Mo		1
Public Library	St. Paul, Minn		1
Public Library	Salem, Mass		1
Public Library	Scranton, Pa		3
Public Library	Toronto, Ont		1
Public Free Library	St. Louis, Mo		1
Ringler, M. J	St. Joseph, Mo	1	
Robinson, C. N	St. Joseph, Mo	2	
St. Joseph Fair Association	St. Joseph, Mo		1
Union Pacific R. R			1
United States Government	Washington, D. C	140	86
Warren County Library	Monmouth, Ills		1
Wisconsin Public Schools	Madison, Wis		2
Y. M. C. A. Training School	Chicago, Ills		1

Bittinger, Hon. J. L., St. Joseph, Mo., 251 Numbers, Unbound Magazines, 2½ years' file St. Joseph "Herald."

Cliff, Miss F. H., St. Joseph, Mo., 30 Numbers Unbound Magazines.

Flegenbaum, Miss Mary, St. Joseph, Mo., 12 Numbers, Magazine for the Blind.

Omaha Bee, Omaha, Neb., 1 copy Daily Paper.

Perris New Era, Perris, Cal., 1 copy Weekly Paper.

St. Joseph Daily News, St. Joseph, Mo., 2 copies Daily Paper.

Superior Leader, Superior, Wis., 1 copy Daily Paper.

Der Techniker, Philadelphia, Pa., 1 copy Monthly Paper.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

GEO. C. HULL, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

	DR.
Balance as per last report	$ 855 76
Received from Librarian	400 00
Interest	51 49
Balance on hand	$ 1,307 25

ST. JOSEPH, May 2, 1895.

Above account examined and found correct.

JNO. DECLUE,
W. H. GORDON.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT.

To Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN:—In accordance with the requirements of the 12th article of your by-laws, it becomes the duty of your Committee on Administration to submit at your regular meeting in May a report as to matters under their supervision.

Your committee desire to say briefly that a careful and thorough examination of the library shows everything to be in good condition. The books are properly classified and conveniently arranged, and are in as good a state of preservation as their constant use will permit The Librarian, Mr. H. L. Elmendorf, the Assistant Librarian, Miss Lulu C. Senter, and the other assistants, Miss Cornelia L. Rathbun, Miss Annie M. Perry, Miss Kalliope Ritner, and Mr. Erle H. Merriman have shown themselves courteous, capable and accommodating, and have performed their respective duties to the satisfaction of your committee, and, we believe, the public generally. The excellent order and perfect condition of every department of the library attest their fidelity and efficiency.

Respectfully submitted,

E. B. NEELY,
B. NEWBURGER,
Admistration Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN:—Your committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books and accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary and find them correct.

Receipts and expenditures for the year will be found in the Librarian's report.

GEO. C. HULL,
W. H. GORDON,
JNO. DECLUE.
Finance Committee.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN:—The committee on Building and Grounds respectfully report that during the year necessary cases for the Library have been put in. An office for Librarian has been furnished. This room is also used for registry desk, and as it adjoins the Reference Room, gives supervision of that department without the employment of extra assistants.

Our thanks are due to the Park Commissioners, who appropriated flowers and plants for the decoration of our grounds, and to the St. Joseph Light and Fuel Co. for lighting the building without expense to the city.

JNO. DECLUE,
B. NEWBURGER,
G. W. HENDLEY.
Building and Grounds Committee.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORT.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN:—Your Library committee has carefully examined and approved the list of books prepared monthly by the Librarian for purchase. Statistics of the growth and use of the Library will be found in the Librarian's report.

GEO. C. HULL,
BARTON PITTS.
Library Committee.

ST. JOSEPH, MO., APRIL 20, 1895.

THE
JOHN CRERAR
LIBRARY

Sixth Annual Report

OF THE

Board of Directors

OF THE

Free Public Library

OF

Saint Joseph, Missouri.

1896
Lon. Hardman, Printer
St. Joseph, Mo.

THE
NEWBERRY
LIBRARY

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF

SAINT JOSEPH, MO.,

May 1, 1896.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY,

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT	REV. HENRY BULLARD
TREASURER	J. W. ATWILL
SECRETARY	H. L. ELMENDORF

DIRECTORS:

Term Expires 1896.	Term Expires 1897.	Term Expires 1898.
E. B. NEELY	W. H. GORDON	W. H. MORLOCK
GEO. W. HENDLEY	B. NEWBURGER	J. W. ATWILL
REV. HENRY BULLARD	JOHN DE CLUE	DR. BARTON PITTS

H. L. ELMENDORF	LIBRARIAN
LULU C. SENTER	ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

ASSISTANTS:

CORNELIA L. RATHBUN	ERLE H. MERRIMAN
ANNIE M. PERRY	STELLA M. BUSHNELL

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

To the Honorable, The Common Council of the City of St. Joseph:

GENTLEMEN:—In behalf of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, I present herewith the sixth annual report, consisting of the detailed statement of the Librarian as to the condition of the Library, together with the action of the various committees.

During the past year we have found the income entirely insufficient for the effective support of the Library.

A new difficulty has been encountered. We have reached the point when it is not enough to meet the ordinary wear and tear of books. Many of the standard and most popular books, with which our shelves were filled at the first, six years ago, have become entirely worn out. They have given out, not one by one, but all at once. Nearly every one of them is constantly called for and must be replaced.

Our finance committee, after carefully considering the pressing needs of the Library, and as carefully the various claims upon the income of the city, as presented by the city officials, recommended that an appeal be made to the voters, according to law, for an increased appropriation for the Library. This recommendation was unanimously adopted by the board and a vote was taken at the last regular election in April. In every voting precinct of the city, with a solitary exception, more votes were cast for the increase asked for (to one mill) than against it. Of the total (4,721) votes cast upon the petition of the Library Board, 3,179, only 95 less than two-thirds, were in its favor.

The Library Board believes that, in full accordance with the intent of the law, their petition was granted, and the appropriation of one mill, instead of three-tenths mill, was ordered by the voters of the city.

It is with very great regret that we learn that your honorable body not only refuses to make this appropriation, but has even reduced the amount we may expect for the coming year from $7,000.00 to $6,500.00.

Respectfully, HENRY BULLARD,
President of the Board.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN. } ss.

Before me Eugene Ayres, a Notary Public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Henry Bullard, President of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of St. Joseph, Missouri, and made oath that the facts and figures in the Librarian's Annual Report relating to receipts and expenditures, contents of Library and books added are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal this 1st day of June, 1896.

EUGENE AYRES,
[SEAL.] Notary Public.

Commission expires May 24, 1897.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN:—I present herewith the sixth annual report of the Librarian, the fourth that I have submitted.

May 1, 1896, the close of our library year, the library contained 13,579 volumes, divided into departments as follows:

Reference Department	1,132
Government Department	1,946
Circulating Department	10,501
	13,579

During the year 1,107 books were added, as follows:

Gifts	47
Serials Bound	47
U. S. Government	176
Purchased	837
	1,107

375 volumes were withdrawn, as follows:

Lost and paid for	12
Worn out	357
Missing	6
	375

Net increase, 732 volumes.

Books added are classified as follows:

Philosophy, Religion, Arts and Science	98
Literature, Poetry and Drama	54
Travel and Description	22
Biography	26
History	49
Bound Magazines	47
German	78
General Works in Reference Department	59
Fiction and Children's Books	498
Government Publications	176
	1,107

Receipts for the year have been as follows:

Balance in city treasury May 1, 1895		$ 35 64
City appropriation		6,584 45
Salaries—librarian and assistants	$3,880 00	
Stationery and printing	82 40	
Postage	15 00	
Miscellaneous	70 07	
Fuel	129 80	
Insurance	95 70	
Rent	600 00	
Janitor	240 00	
Repairs	17 45	
Furniture	48 66	
Binding	382 60	
Books and periodicals	1,047 48	
Balance in city treasury May 1, 1896	10 93	
	$6,620 09	$6,620 09

Treasurer's report shows:

Balance as per last report	$1,307 25	
Received from librarian	315 00	
Interest on account	52 29	
		$1,674 54
May 1, 1895. Balance in librarian's hands	$ 20 74	
Fines collected	324 36	
Catalogues sold	65 30	
Miscellaneous	74 70	
Deposited with treasurer		$ 315 00
Incidental expenses		156 98
Balance on hand		13 12
	$ 485 10	$ 485 10

The circulation for home use was 109,073, an increase of 191 over the previous year. The library was open 306 days. Daily average circulation, 360; monthly average, 9,089. The largest day's circulation was 695 volumes, January 25, 1896, and the smallest 111 volumes, December 18, 1895. Particulars of circulation and classification of books drawn are given in appendix. Borrower's cards in force, 4,167; an increase of 64.

The quality of books read has improved very noticeably.

The number of novels and children's books drawn for home use has decreased 3,055, with a corresponding increase in more solid reading. The character of the fiction read has been much better. This has been effected by the purchase of extra copies of the best novels and a reduction of a number of those less worthy, and by a persistent effort of the assistants to induce readers to take the better books.

Libraries of fifty books each, selected by the principal of the school and the librarian, were put in the Neely and Bliss Schools, to be drawn for home use by the scholars. In this way 905 books were circulated. Other principals of schools applied for similar libraries, which could not be given them because the library had not enough suitable books to spare for the purpose. This work in the schools will be extended as quickly as possible, and as far as the means of the library will permit.

A collection of thirty books was loaned for two months to the Boys' Club of the Westminster Church. The books were in the care of Mr. McAllister of the High School, and were lent 187 times for home use.

The library possesses several hundred mounted pictures, which are lent to the teachers, and serve to illustrate lessons, entertain and rest the pupils, and cultivate a taste for beautiful things.

The original issue of the finding list, published October 1, 1892, with the supplements since published, is about exhausted. A new list of all of the books in the circulating department is in preparation, which is expected to be published by July 1, 1896.

During the year lists of new books added have been published in bulletins from time to time. Experience has proved that a printed list arranged in classes and alphabetically by authors, with no other matter, is the most satisfactory way of putting the new books before the public.

An increase has been very perceptible in the use of the reference department. The books and shelves are open to the public without restriction and no statistics can be given. Eleven hundred and twenty-five books were drawn from the circulating department for reference use.

The members of the Runcie, the Dante and the Travel Clubs have availed themselves extensively of the library, and everything possible has been done to aid them in their studies.

Forty-seven volumes of magazines have been bound. Seven hundred and twenty books have been rebound.

The magazine reading-room is supplied with one quarterly, twenty-nine monthlies, one semi-monthly, twenty weeklies and five dailies. Extra copies of the leading monthlies are taken for circulation. A list of serials is given in appendix.

The library has received a number of very acceptable donations, notable among which are twenty-one volumes, thirty-six numbers and twelve pamphlets, from F. M. Posegate; one volume, eighty-three numbers and six pamphlets from Rev. Dr. Henry Bullard; one hundred and fifty-three numbers from Mrs. Peter Hughes, and five hundred and thirty-one numbers from Miss Ellen Douglas. The contributions of unbound numbers of magazines are especially valuable, enabling the library to complete some of the sets indexed in Poole's index.

A list of all gifts and their donors is given in the appendix.

The work of the library could be much extended and its usefulness increased, particularly in the line of educational work in connection with the schools, if its means and facilities were increased.

Respectfully submitted,

H. L. ELMENDORF, Librarian.

TABLE OF CLASSIFICATION.

Classes.	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Total	Per Cent
Philosophy, Religion, Arts and Sciences	275	257	292	287	274	338	289	296	374	423	411	288	3804	.035
General Literature, Poetry and Drama	231	231	284	270	219	318	408	333	412	474	416	449	4045	.038
Travel	135	146	163	182	168	168	162	187	193	208	258	246	2216	.020
Biography	131	101	107	115	192	179	246	229	206	220	278	287	2291	.022
History	105	180	149	185	255	219	370	286	281	258	334	370	2972	.026
Serials	364	334	383	363	358	355	403	352	334	378	373	383	4380	.040
German	214	245	283	278	258	209	224	281	286	270	303	343	3194	.030
Fiction and Children's Books	7100	7303	7801	8172	6449	6064	6890	6464	7701	7806	7770	6601	86121	.789
Total	8565	8797	9462	9852	8173	7860	9002	8428	9787	10037	10143	8967	109073	
Days open	25	25	26	27	24	27	25	25	26	24	26	26	306	

LIST OF PERIODICALS TAKEN BY THE LIBRARY.

QUARTERLY.

1 Cyclopaedic Review of Current History.

MONTHLY.

1 American Teacher.
2 Arena.
1 Art Interchange.
2 Atlantic.
1 Blackwood's.
5 Century.
5 Cosmopolitan.
2 Current Literature.
1 Eclectic.
1 Educational Review.
2 Forum.
5 Harper's.
1 Inland Printer.
1 Ladies' Home Journal.
1 Library Journal.
3 Lippincott's.
2 McClure's.
1 McMillan's.
1 Missionary Review of the World.
3 Munsey's.
2 New England.
2 North American Review.
1 Outing.
1 Overland.
2 Popular Science Monthly.
2 Review of Reviews.
3 St. Nicholas.
4 Scribner's.
1 Der Techniker (Gift of Pub.)

SEMI-MONTHLY.

1 Dial.

WEEKLY.

1 Catholic Review (Gift.)
1 Harper's Bazar.
1 Harper's Round Table.
1 Harper's Weekly.
1 Illustrated American.
1 Illustrated London News.
1 Journal of Education.
1 Judge.
1 Leslie's Weekly.
1 Life.
1 Littell's Living Age.
1 Nation.
1 Publishers' Weekly.
1 Puck.
1 St. Joseph Journal of Commerce (Gift of Pub.)
1 St. Louis Presbyterian (Gift.)
1 School Journal.
1 Scientific American.
1 Scientific American Supplement.
1 Youth's Companion.

DAILY.

1 Congressional Record (Gift.)
1 New York Times (Gift of Pub.)
1 Omaha Bee (Gift of Pub.)
2 St. Joseph Daily News (Gift of Pub.)
1 West Superior Leader (Gift of Pub.)

GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY.

Donor.	Location.	Nos.	Pamphlets.	Vols.
Apprentices' Library	Philadelphia, Pa		2	
Brentano's	Paris		1	
Bronson Library	Waterbury, Conn		2	
Brooklyn Library	Brooklyn, N. Y		1	
Bullard, Rev. Dr. Henry	St. Joseph, Mo	83	6	1
City Library Association	Springfield, Mass		1	
Connecticut Public Library Commission			1	
Connecticut State Teachers' Association			1	
Cornell, Ed	St. Joseph, Mo			1
Dolman, Mrs. John	St. Joseph, Mo			1
Douglas, Miss Ellen	St. Joseph, Mo	531		
Enoch Pratt Free Library	Baltimore, Md		2	
Fiegenbaum, Miss Mary	St. Joseph, Mo	12		
Forbes Library	Northampton, Mass		1	

GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY—CONTINUED.

Free Library	Newton, Mass.		2	
Free Public Library	Council Bluffs, Ia.		1	
Free Public Library	Jersey City, N. J.		1	
Free Public Library	Lawrence, Mass.		1	
Free Public Library	New Haven, Conn.		4	
Free Public Library	Paterson, N. J.		1	
Free Public Library	Pawtucket, R. I.		1	
Free Public Library	Worcester Mass.		1	
Gildehaus, Charles	St. Louis, Mo.			1
Green, Samuel S.	Worcester, Mass.		1	
Hearst Free Library	Anaconda, Mont.		1	
Hughes, Mrs. Peter	St. Joseph, Mo.	153		
I. O. B. B., Joseph Lodge	St. Joseph, Mo.			3
Indian Rights Association	Philadelphia, Pa.		2	
Indiana Library Association			1	
James Prendergast Free Library	Jamestown, N. Y.		1	
Library Association	Portland, Ore.	8		
Library Commission	Seattle, Wash.		1	
Library Company	Philadelphia, Pa.		3	
Mercantile Library	New York City.		1	
Mercantile Library	Philadelphia, Pa.		1	
Motter, Mrs. W. D. B.	St. Joseph, Mo.		12	6
Newberry Library	Chicago, Ill.		1	
Newburger, B.	St. Joseph, Mo.			1
Peabody Institute	Danvers, Mass.		1	
Posegate, F. M.	St. Joseph, Mo.	36	12	21
Public Library	Boston, Mass.		1	
Public Library	Denver, Colo.		1	
Public Library	Grand Rapids, Mich.		1	
Public Library	Indianapolis, Ind.		1	
Public Library	Kansas City, Mo.		1	
Public Library	Lawrence, Mass.	2		
Public Library	Lynn, Mass.		1	
Public Library	Milwaukee, Wis.		8	
Public Library	Minneapolis, Minn.		1	
Public Library	Peoria, Ill.		1	
Public Library	Providence, R. I.		1	
Public Library	Scranton, Pa.		3	
Public Library	Taunton, Mass.		1	
Rock, Charles	St. Joseph, Mo.			1
Sanders, Walter J.	St. Joseph, Mo.			1
Secretary of State of Missouri	Jefferson City, Mo.			1
Tufts Library	Weymouth, Mass.		2	
Union Depot Company	St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
United States Government	Washington, D. C.	47	25	176
Warren County Library Ass'n	Monmouth, Ill.	4		
Wemyss, R. J.	West Superior, Wis.		1	
Wilmington Institute	Wilmington, Del.		1	
Wisconsin Free Library Commission			1	
Wisconsin State Historical Society	Madison, Wis.		1	

REPORT OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN:—The purchase of books by the Librarian, amounting to 837 volumes, during the year now closed, has been made by him after full consultation with and approval of the Library Committee, and so reported each month to the Board.

HENRY BULLARD,
J. W. ATWILL,
BARTON PITTS,
Library Committee.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN:—Your committee on Administration respectfully report that they have inspected the library, and find everything in order, and the books in as good a condition as their constant wear will admit.

The employees have merited the approbation of the Board by efficiency and faithfulness.

Miss Ritner, for two years an assistant in the library, resigned her position March 1, 1896, and Miss Stella Bushnell was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Respectfully submitted,
E. B. NEELY,
J. W. ATWILL,
B. NEWBURGER,
Administration Committee.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The finance committee of the Free Public Library report as follows:

We have carefully examined the books of the treasurer and secretary and find them correct.

The receipts and expenditures for the year have been as follows:

Balance in City Treasury, May 1, 1895		$ 35 64
City Appropriation		6,584 45
Salaries, Librarian and Assistants	$ 3,880 00	
Janitor	240 00	
Stationery and Printing	82 40	
Postage	15 00	
Miscellaneous	70 07	
Heating	129 80	
Insurance	95 70	
Rent	600 00	
Repairs	17 45	
Furniture	48 66	
Binding	382 60	
Books and Periodicals	1,047 48	
Balance in City Treasury, May 1, 1896	10 93	
	$ 6,620 09	$ 6,620 09

We find that this agrees with the accounts of the city officers on the same dates. The city closes its accounts the third Monday in April, while the State law specifies that the report of the library shall show the state of the trust May 1.

In April, 1895, the city carried over a balance to credit of library of	$	569 44
April 25, 1895, there was drawn for April bills		533 80
Leaving balance to current year of	$	35 64
This year the city carried a balance April 20, of	$	385 93
April 23, there was drawn for April bills		375 00
Leaving balance as per report	$	10 93

We call attention to the small amount available for the purchase of books. When the library was started, although the vote was passed in April, 1890, the library was not opened until March, 1891, and the running expenses were in consequence small for the first year, and a balance was carried over of $1,150.00. This sum was applied to the purchase of books in other years, and was only exhausted at the beginning of the last year. A reduced assessment has made the library income smaller, and the taking of the insurance out of the regular city taxes, so that the library receives no proportion of it, although the city receives the amount through the State treasury, has also cut our funds short.

The need of increased income was so apparent for the keeping up of the library and the extension of the work that the committee advised the board to take steps to present to the people a proposition to increase the appropriation from three-tenths mill to one mill, allowed by State law, contemplating devoting all the surplus above the amount necessary to run the library properly to a building fund for the erection of a suitable building for the library. Although the result showed that our citizens were overwhelmingly in favor of the increase, on a technicality and upon the advice of the city counselor, the city authorities declined to appropriate the increased amount.

Estimates for the coming year show that we will have about the same amount for the purchase of books and periodicals that we expended last year.

W. H. GORDON,
WM. H. MORLOCK,
JNO. DECLUE.

REPORT OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

To the President and Directors of the Free Public Library:

Your committee on buildings and grounds, in compliance with the by-laws, submit the annual report of expenditures coming under our supervision.

Rent	$ 600 00
Janitor	240 00
Insurance	95 70
Fuel	129 80
Furniture	48 66
Repairs	17 45
Water	30 00
Hose and Plumbing	11 95
Lawn Mower	8 20
Flag	7 96
Ice	6 25
Janitor's Supplies	2 65
	$1,198 62

Your committee recommend a vote of thanks to the Park Commissioners for the gift of plants and shrubs to ornament our grounds. We commend the diligence and faithfulness of David McKinney, our janitor, credit him for the fine appearance of the grounds, and recommend him for re-appointment.

JNO. DECLUE,
G. W. HENDLEY,
B. NEWBURGER,
Building and Grounds Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

J. W. ATWILL, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Received from George C. Hull, Treasurer	$ 60 00
Received from George C. Hull, account	1,307 25
Received from Librarian	255 00
Received Interest on account	52 29
Balance on hand May 1, 1896	$1,674 54

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1896.

Approved.

W. H. GORDON,
JNO. DECLUE,
WM. H. MORLOCK,
Finance Committee.

THE
JOHN CRERAR
LIBRARY

Seventh Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library St. Joseph, Mo.

Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 1897.

JOHN CARTER
LIBRARY

LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI.

Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 1897.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

OFFICERS.

President ..... John DeClue
Vice President ..... Rev. J. L. Lawless
Secretary and Treasurer ..... Charles A. Pfeiffer

DIRECTORS.

Term expires 1897.	Term expires 1898.	Term expires 1899.
W. H. Gordon	W. H. Morlock	H. K. White
B. Newburger	J. W. Atwill	C. A. Pfeiffer
John DeClue	Dr. Barton Pitts	Rev. J. L. Lawless

COMMITTEES.

LIBRARY—Atwill, Lawless, White.
ADMINISTRATION—Pitts, DeClue, Atwill.
BUILDING AND GROUNDS—Newburger, Gordon, DeClue.
FINANCE—Gordon, Morlock, Pfeiffer.
BY-LAWS—Morlock, Pitts, White.

LIBRARY STAFF.

Purd B. Wright ..... Librarian
Lulu C. Senter ..... Assistant Librarian
Annie M. Perry ..... Reference Department
Cornelia L. Rathbun ..... Circulating Department
Erle H. Merriman ..... Cataloging Department
Stella M. Bushnell ..... Accession Department

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of St. Joseph:

GENTLEMEN: As required by law, I herewith present the Seventh Annual Report of the Free Public Library of St. Joseph, showing the condition and work of this institution.

The income of the library is sadly deficient, and had it not been for the special fund in the treasury of the Board of Directors at the beginning of the fiscal year, secured by preserving the moneys received from fines and similar sources since its organization, comparatively few books could have been purchased. This fund, amounting to $1,674.54, together with similar collections of $333.00 during the year, has been exhausted in the purchase of books absolutely necessary to keep the library in touch with the work devolving upon it. The seeming balance to the credit of the library in the hands of the city treasurer at this time, is explained by the fact that books heretofore ordered have not arrived.

The library has reached that age when books purchased in its first days must be replaced. The general public is not aware of the rapidity with which popular books wear out and the great expense entailed upon the library in replacing them. The circulation of books, already very large, when the total number in this department is considered, is constantly increasing, as will be seen by the reports herewith.

The increased use of the library necessarily means additional expense. The cost of rebinding books is a constantly growing one, the increase for the past year in this one item being about seventy-five per cent. over that of the year previous, and a much larger sum will be required this year. Books wear out more rapidly and must be replaced. Such volumes do not appear as new titles, and, therefore, make little showing.

The imperative demand for an increase in the funds of the library led the Board of Directors to consider the advisability of again asking the voters of the city to authorize the setting apart for library purposes of an increased percentage of the city taxes, but, in view of the condition of the city finances, it was thought best to postpone this request until a more favorable time. In lieu thereof, however, the Board of Directors, through its finance committee, asked for an increased apportionment, and, in view of the fact that the library fund has never been credited with any portion of the back taxes collected, interest on deposits of its funds, nor a proportion of the insurance tax collected by the state, believes that it is legally entitled to it. While the amount asked for will by no means meet the requirements of the library, it will enable those entrusted with its administration to at least prevent a backward movement. Without this additional money the library will suffer a most serious backset.

Briefly, among important items, the following reports show a home circulation for the year of 120,853, an increase of 11,780; a net gain in the number of volumes in the library of 1,260; users of the library by card number 4,347, a gain of 394. This does not include those persons who use only the reference and reading rooms, as these departments are open without restriction to all.

As to further facts, you are requested to read the reports herewith, as they are complete, and give detailed statements of the work done, and that sought to be accomplished.

Yours respectfully,

JNO. DECLUE,

President Board of Directors.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1897.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN, } ss.

Before me, Levi Mitchell, a notary public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared John DeClue, president of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of St. Joseph, Missouri, and made oath that the facts and figures in the reports relating to receipts and expenditures, contents of library and books added are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of May, 1897.

[SEAL.] LEVI MITCHELL,

Notary Public.

Commission expires, March 5, 1901.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: The Seventh Annual Report of the librarian is herewith presented for your consideration.

ACCESSIONS AND WITHDRAWALS.

At the beginning of the library year, May 1, 1896, the library contained according to the annual report, 13,579 volumes. Accessions for the year number 1,960, classified by source as follows: Gifts, 18; periodicals, bound, 162; U. S. Government, 128; purchased, 1,652. During the same period 720 volumes were withdrawn, as follows: Lost and paid for, 16; exchanged, 18; worn out, 680; missing, 6.

The accessions and withdrawals are classified as follows:

Class	Accessions	With-drawals	Net Gain
Philosophy	16	1	15
Religion	40	...	40
Sociology	44	1	43
Natural Science	35	1	34
Useful Arts	24	...	24
Fine Arts	29	...	29
Literature	91	18	73
History	148	4	144
Travel	61	4	57
Biography	147	2	145
Bound Magazines, reference	144	8	136
Bound Magazines, circulating	18	...	18
Other Reference Works	75	6	69
German	85	5	80
Fiction	875	670	205
Government Publications	128	...	128
Total	1960	720	1240

VOLUMES IN LIBRARY.

The library contains at the present time 14,839 volumes, of which 1,337 are in the reference department, 2,074 in the government department, and 11,428 in the circulating department; a net increase of 1,240 volumes for the year. The average cost of books purchased during the year was $1.13.

FINANCIAL.

Following are the expenditures of the library for the year from both general and special funds:

	Gen'l Fund	Special Fund	Total
Salaries	$3,605 00		$3,605 00
Rent	600 00		600 00
Janitor	240 00		240 00
Printing and Stationery	89 25		89 25
Printing Finding List		$ 380 25	380 25
Postage	19 50		19 50
Miscellaneous	82 55	45 00	127 55
Heat	188 60		188 60
Insurance	89 00		89 00
Repairs	17 55		17 55
Furniture	97 40	12 50	109 90
Binding	656 02	4 77	660 79
Periodicals	33 30	209 15	242 45
Books	924 74	943 54	1,868 28
Total	$6,642 91	$1,595 21	$8,238 12

Special fund, collections and disbursements:

Balance in librarian's hands, May 1, 1896	$ 13 12	
Fines Collected	308 76	
Catalogs Sold	95 05	
Miscellaneous Collections (rents, bulletins, damaged books, lost books, new cards, extra volumes)	92 47	
Deposited with Treasurer		$333 00
*Incidental Expenses		161 82
Balance on Hand		14 58
	$509 40	$509 40

NUMBER OF BORROWERS.

The number of cards in use is 4,347. Expirations for the year were 1,763; cancellations, 119; total, 1,182. Cards issued: Renewals, 903; new, 1,373; total, 2,276; increase, 394.

CIRCULATION.

The issues for home use were 120,853, an increase of 11,780. Daily average circulation, 390; monthly average, 10,071, an increase of 902. The largest issue of books in the circulating department for one day was 830, February 6, 1897; the smallest, 185, September 18, 1896. A small increase in the percentage of fiction is noted, while a gratifying improvement is apparent in the use of history and travel, the increase in the percentage in the two last-named classes being about one-tenth. Volumes in the circulating department were issued on an average of eleven times each during the twelve months.

The cost per volume of circulation was 6.8 cents. It is difficult to make comparisons of this expense with other libraries, from the fact that some have no rent to pay, others no heating bills, and similar expenses, while all of these items are embraced in the charges against the circulation of this library.

The grade of fiction issued is improving. The former librarian, Mr. H. L. Elmendorf, in publishing a new finding list last year, dropped, among others, the books of Horatio Alger, Jr., Bertha M. Clay, "Harry Castlemon," May Agnes Fleming, and a large number of those of Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth. As these books wear out they are not replaced. This policy has been steadily pursued, and, in addition to the above, among those whose novels have either been dropped entirely or reduced in number are Argles, Braddon, Holmes, Stephens, Forrester, Terhune and Cameron. A continuous effort on the part of the library staff is being made to encourage the reading of better books, and there is little ground for complaint as to results.

*The incidental expenses account includes all postage of the Library (other than printed postal cards), freight and cartage on books, the purchase of ink, pens, pencils, and like small supplies.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

While no statistics are kept relating to the reference room, its use is constantly growing, especially among pupils of the schools of the city. Volumes from the circulating department to the number of 992 were issued for reference during the year.

The same trouble as heretofore exists with this department. Its location makes it impracticable to have it overlooked continuously by library assistants, and financial reasons prevent an increase of the force. Books are taken away and often not returned, while many suffer from vandals. An ordinance is being prepared for submission to the common council, imposing penalties for misdemeanors of this kind, which it is hoped will aid in correcting this evil.

READING ROOM.

As will be seen by reference to appendices, important accessions have been made to the reading room, principal among which are daily newspapers from all portions of the United States, contributed by the Herald and Gazette Publishing Companies of this city. Trade journals, forming an attractive commercial department, are furnished through the courtesy of their publishers. Another interesting and useful addition is a list of medical journals, donated regularly by the St. Joseph Academy of Medicine.

The reading room suffers through vandalism as does the reference department, and for the same reason a remedy has not yet been found.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

The work in the schools, inaugurated two years ago, has been kept up as well as the condition of the library permitted, and with satisfactory results. Arrangements are under way for extending this work to include all of the schools in the outlying portions of the city, and with each order for books several titles are included for this especial purpose. Teachers are encouraged to use the library, and are granted extra privileges, being permitted access to the shelves for examination of books.

LIBRARY NOTES.

A new finding list was issued last July, since which date two bulletins, containing 300 titles each, have been published, and a third is now ready.

Through an arrangement with the Daily Herald and Daily Gazette lists of new books and special topic-lists are published weekly. The use of the type is granted the library, hence the cost of publishing bulletins is reduced to a nominal sum. The advertisement thus secured through the daily papers is responsible, in large measure, for the increased use of the library.

In addition to assisting the various literary clubs of the city in their regular programs, special lists have also been prepared, embracing topics of immediate interest. During the campaign last fall, such a list on the financial question proved decidedly useful. Other lists covered the Cuban revolution, the Armenian question, Cretan insurrection, and the Graeco-Turkish war.

Fine notices were sent out as follows: First notice, postals, 1,316; second notices, 128; guarantors written, 36.

Of 1,624 volumes sent to the bindery, 1,466 were for rebinding, and 158 were magazines. In addition, a large number have been repaired at the library, so far as possible to do so in lieu of rebinding.

While the library is a government depository, the books have neither been listed nor classified, consequently they have not been of the use to the public which they otherwise would have been. It is hoped to remedy this at an early day, as well as to classify books in the German language, now designated by consecutive numbers.

Appended will be found (a) classified table of circulation; (b) list of periodicals taken; and (c) list of donations.

The librarian wishes to acknowledge the hearty support and good-will of the library staff, without which the showing herein made would not have been possible.

The work of the library is seriously hampered in every way by lack of funds, and quarters which are not adapted to library purposes. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, it is doing a splendid work, which is small only in comparison with what might be done under favorable conditions.

With thanks to the Board for its kindly consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

PURD B. WRIGHT,
Librarian.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN, } ss.

Before me, Edward S. Douglas, a notary public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Purd B. Wright, librarian of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., and made oath that the facts and figures herein relating to receipts and expenditures, contents of library and books added are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal, this 24th day of May, 1897.

[SEAL.] EDWARD S. DOUGLAS,
Notary Public.

My commission expires November 16, 1900.

REPORT OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: During the past fiscal year, 1,960 volumes have been added to the library, of which 18 were gifts, 162 periodicals, 128 government publications, and 1,652 purchased. Withdrawals for the same period aggregated 720, leaving a net gain of 1,240 volumes. All purchases were made after approval by the committee and board.

Your committee, with the librarian, has used care in the selection of titles, and has sought to include in its lists only the better books. In fiction, it has been the policy to drop a great many titles, and this line will be pursued according to the best judgment of the committee.

While the circulation report shows a small increase in the percentage of fiction, the grade of books called for in this class is steadily improving. Gratifying increases in circulation are noted in history, travel, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. ATWILL,
H. K. WHITE,
J. L. LAWLESS,
Library Committee.

May 1, 1897.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: An examination of the library shows the books to be in as good condition as their constant use will permit.

The only change in the library force during the year was that caused by the resignation of Mr. H. L. Elmendorf, librarian, to accept a more lucrative position. Mr. Purd B. Wright was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The work of the force has been such as to deserve commendation at our hands.

J. W. ATWILL.
JNO. DECLUE.
BARTON PITTS.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: I herewith submit a detailed report of the financial operations of the Board for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1897:

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

1896.			
July 31.	Received from Treasurer J. W. Atwill certificate of deposit on National Bank of St. Joseph	$ 225 00	
	Received from Treasurer J. W. Atwill certificate of deposit on National Bank of St. Joseph	1,359 54	
	Received from Treasurer J. W. Atwill check on National Bank of St. Joseph	120 00	
			$1,704 54
Aug. 5.	Received from H. L. Elmendorf	$ 25 00	
Aug. 28.	Received from H. L. Elmendorf	25 00	
Sept. 29.	Received from H. L. Elmendorf	30 00	
Oct. 22.	Received from Purd B. Wright	35 00	
Nov. 25.	Received from Purd B. Wright	40 00	
Dec. 24.	Received from Purd B. Wright	16 00	
1897.			
Jan. 11.	Received from National Bank of St. Joseph, interest on $225	6 75	
Jan. 28.	Received from Purd B. Wright	35 00	
Feb. 25.	Received from Purd B. Wright	32 00	
March 24.	Received from Purd B. Wright	1 94	
March 25.	Received from Purd B. Wright	30 06	
April 21.	Received from Purd B. Wright	33 00	
			$ 309 75

EXPENDITURES.

Disbursed as per vouchers	$1,595 21	
Transferred to city treasurer, January 11, '97	289 02	
Deposited with city treasurer, January 29	35 00	
Deposited with city treasurer, February 26	32 00	
Deposited with city treasurer, March 25	30 06	
Deposited with city treasurer, April 22	33 00	
	$2,014 29	$2,014 29

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in hands of city treasurer, April 20, 1896	$ 385 93	
Expenditures for month of April, 1896, as per vouchers	375 00	
Balance on hand beginning the library year, May 1, 1896.		$ 10 93
Collections from three-tenths mills tax placed to credit of Free Public Library with city treasurer:		
May	$4,533 00	
June	236 03	
July	228 02	
August	350 90	
September	348 32	
October	313 50	
November	180 29	
December	245 87	
January	8 97	
February	11 42	
March	4 63	
April	31	
		$6,463 26
1897.		
Jan. 11. Transferred from special fund	$ 289 02	
Jan. 29. Deposit	35 00	
Feb. 26. Deposit	32 00	
March 25. Deposit	30 06	
April 22. Deposit	33 00	419 08
		$6,893 27

EXPENDITURES.

1896.		
May, vouchers	$1,009 58	
June, vouchers	607 07	
July, vouchers	471 75	
August, vouchers	546 48	
September, vouchers	459 75	
October, vouchers	604 65	
November, vouchers	542 38	
December, vouchers	395 50	
1897.		
January, vouchers	440 35	
February, vouchers	464 70	
March, vouchers	521 06	
April, vouchers	579 64	
		$6,642 91

RECAPITULATION.

Receipts, General Fund:		
Balance on hand, May 1, 1896	$ 10 93	
Receipts from three-tenths mill tax	6,463 26	$6,474 19
Special fund:		
Balance on hand July 1, 1896	$1,704 54	
Collections	309 75	
		$2,014 29
Expenditures:		
General Fund	$6,642 91	
Special Fund	1,595 21	
Total	$8,238 12	
Balance in city treasury to credit of Library Fund, May 1, 1897	$ 250 36	
	$8,488 48	$8,488 48

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,

Treasurer.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN, } ss

Before me, J. C. Hedenberg, a notary public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Charles A. Pfeiffer, treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Missouri, and made oath that the facts and figures above set forth are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal, this 25th day of May, 1897.

[SEAL.] J. C. HEDENBERG,

Notary Public.

My commission expires November 13, 1897.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: As required by law, the finance committee herewith submits, for your consideration, a report of the receipts and expenditures of the library for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1897:

SPECIAL FUND.

Receipts:		
Balance on hand May 1, 1896		$1,674 54
Collections		339 75
Disbursements:		
Vouchers on file	$1,595 21	
Transferred to city treasurer	289 02	
Deposited with city treasurer	130 06	
	$2,014 29	$2,014 29

GENERAL FUND.

Receipts:		
Balance in hands of city treasurer, May 1, 1896		$ 10 93
Collected from 3-10 mill tax		6,463 26
Transferred from Special Fund		289 02
Deposited by treasurer, monthly collections		130 06
Disbursements:		
Monthly bills, as per vouchers	$6,642 91	
Balance in hands of city treasurer	250 36	
	$6,893 27	$6,893 27

The committee, acting under instructions of the Board of Directors, met the members of the common council whose terms did not expire this year, early in March, and stated the necessity for additional funds, either as a direct appropriation from the city treasury, or the increase, by a vote of the people, of the amount of the tax to be set apart for library purposes. After thoroughly considering the question, it was thought best by all concerned that the relief required be given by the council as an additional appropriation, in liquidation of claims of the library for back taxes, interest on deposit of library funds, and a share of insurance taxes collected by the state for the city. The amount agreed upon at that time was between $7,500 and $8,000. Later developments have fixed the amount at the first-named figure.

The accounts of the treasurer and librarian have been checked and found to be correct, the former corresponding, in the general fund, with that of the city auditor.

W. H. GORDON.
WM. H. MORLOCK.
CHAS. A. PFEIFFER.

REPORT OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: The committee on building and grounds herewith submits a report of expenditures for the department under its charge, as required by the by-laws.

Rent	$ 600 00
Janitor	240 00
Insurance	89 00
Fuel	188 60
Furniture	97 40
Stove, (special fund)	12 50
Repairs	17 55
Water	40 00
Ice	7 75
	$1,292 80

Through the courtesy of the park commissioners, who furnished plants and shrubs, the grounds of the library last season were made very attractive. Like contributions were promised from the same source this year. The janitor, David McKinney, deserves especial mention for his care of the grounds. His re-appointment is recommended.

Respectfully submitted,

B. NEWBURGER.
W. H. GORDON.
CHAS. A. PFEIFFER.

May 1, 1897. Committee on Building and Grounds.

APPENDIX "A"—CLASSIFIED TABLE OF CIRCULATION.

	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Total	Per Cent
Philosophy	27	41	35	39	24	22	44	47	65	58	75	46	523	
Religion	45	45	56	38	48	71	72	87	79	66	95	87	789	
Sociology	56	51	59	64	51	60	45	48	56	66	72	62	690	
Philology	2	3	5	2	1	2	9	4	6	3	14	5	56	.035
Natural Science	68	68	47	63	69	76	72	71	122	92	71	77	796	
Useful Arts	16	25	36	20	18	23	19	30	44	55	49	35	370	
Fine Arts	58	64	47	74	65	54	55	88	107	90	126	88	916	
Literature	280	308	286	261	248	275	380	396	383	387	380	374	3958	.033
History	304	243	236	262	228	272	319	302	282	336	340	301	3455	.028
Travel	152	172	146	148	143	226	239	234	267	255	253	197	2432	.022
Biography	155	126	124	138	102	149	175	224	215	180	241	218	2047	.017
Magazines	321	376	353	357	328	313	328	339	380	397	450	392	4334	.036
German	238	201	231	371	237	277	267	306	385	361	426	331	3531	.029
Fiction and Juvenile	6809	8077	8526	8992	7741	7352	7275	7759	8460	8656	8994	8275	96716	.800
Total home issues	8531	9750	10187	10729	9303	9172	9299	9935	10851	11002	11586	10508	120853	1.000
Ref. use from circulating dept.	67	72	31	21	31	80	117	82	90	126	147	128	992	.....
Total issues	8598	9822	10218	10750	9334	9252	9416	10017	10841	11168	11733	10636	121845	.....
Days open	25	26	26	26	25	27	24	26	25	23	27	26	306	.....
Average daily issues	343	377	393	413	373	343	392	389	433	485	438	409	398	.....

APPENDIX "B"—LIST OF PERIODICALS TAKEN BY THE LIBRARY.

QUARTERLY.

1 Cyclopaedic Review of Current History.

MONTHLY.

1 American Electrician.
1 American Teacher.
1 *American Medical Journalist.
2 Arena.
1 Art Interchange.
2 Atlantic Monthly.
1 Blackwood's Magazine.
1 Bookman.
5 Century.
5 Cosmopolitan.
1 Cumulative Index.
2 Current Literature.
1 Eclectic Magazine.
1 Educational Review.
1 Fire and Water. (Gift of Daily Herald.)
2 Forum.
5 Harper's Monthly.
1 Inland Printer.
1 Ladies' Home Journal.
1 Land of Sunshine. (Gift.)
1 Library Journal.
3 Lippincott's.
1 Literary News.
3 McClure's Magazine.
1 Macmillan's Magazine.
1 *Medical Herald.
1 Missionary Review of the World
3 Munsey's Magazine.
2 New England Magazine.
2 North American Review.
1 Outing.
1 Overland Monthly.
1 Photographic Times.
2 Popular Science Monthly.
2 Review of Reviews.
3 St. Nicholas.
5 Scribner's Magazine.
1 Stone.
1 *Vegetarian, Chicago.
1 *Western Fruit Grower.

*Gift of Publisher.

SEMI-MONTHLY.

1 Dial.

WEEKLY.

1 American. (Gift of Gazette Publishing Co.)
1 *Bradstreet's.
1 *Christian Intelligencer.
1 Christian Science Journal. (Gift Christian Science Students.)
1 *Commercial Tribune, Denver, Colo.
1 *Democrat - Lever, Plattsburg, Mo.
2 Engineering Record. (Gift of Gazette and Herald Publishing Co's.)
1 Harper's Bazar.
1 Harper's Weekly.
1 Harper's Round Table.
1 *Leader, Plattsburg, Mo.
1 Leslie's Weekly.
1 Illustrated American.
1 Illustrated London News.
1 *Interstate Grocer, St. Louis.
1 *Journal of Commerce.
1 Journal of Education.
1 Life.
1 Littell's Living Age.
1 *Modern Miller, St. Louis, Mo.
1 Nation.
1 *Northwestern Merchant, Duluth, Minn.
1 *Ohio Merchant, Cleveland, O.
1 Parish Message. (Gift of Christ Church Parish).
1 Public Opinion.
1 Publisher's Weekly.
1 School Journal.
1 Scientific American.
1 Scientific American Supplement
1 *Shoe and Leather Gazette, St. Louis, Mo.
1 *The Trader (El Comerciante), Mexico, Mex.
1 *Trade Register, Seattle, Wash.
1 *Trade Review and Industrial Record, Dallas, Tex.
1 Tribune, New York City. (Gift).
1 Western Electrician.

APPENDIX "B"—LIST OF PERIODICALS TAKEN BY THE LIBRARY. Continued.

DAILIES.

**Arizona Republican, Phoenix.
**Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution.
*Baltimore (Md.) News.
*Buffalo (N. Y.) News.
**Chicago (Ill.) Chronicle.
Congressional Record.
*Denver (Colo.) Republican.
*Indianapolis (Ind.) Sentinel.
*Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union.
**Los Angeles (Cal.) Express.
**Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal.
*Minneapolis (Minn.) Tribune.)
*New York (N. Y.) Mail and Express.
*Philadelphia (Pa.) Public Ledger.
*—— Times.
**Pittsburg (Pa.) Dispatch.
*Rocky Mountain News, Denver, Colo.
**Springfield (Mass.) Republican.
*St. Joseph (Mo.) Daily Herald.
St. Joseph (Mo.) Daily News. (Gift of Publisher.)
St. Joseph (Mo.) Daily Volksblatt. (Gift of Publisher.)
**St. Louis (Mo.) Chronicle.
**St. Paul (Minn.) Globe.
**Salt Lake (Utah) Herald.
*San Francisco (Cal.) Bulletin.
**Washington (D. C.) Post.
West Superior (Wis.) Leader. (Gift of Publisher.)

LIST OF MEDICAL JOURNALS.

Donated by the St. Joseph Academy of Medicine.
Alienist and Neurologist.
American Medical Review.
American Medico-Surgical Bulletin.
Annals of Surgery.
Archives of Pediatrics.
Buffalo Medical and Surgical Journal.
Bulletin of the American Academy of Medicine.
Chicago Medical Recorder.
Denver Medical Times.
International Journal of Surgery.
Iowa Medical Journal.
Journal of the American Medical Association.
Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases.
Kansas City Medical Index.
Kansas City Medical Record.
Kansas Medical Journal.
Langsdale's Lancet.
Matthews' Medical Quarterly.
Medical and Surgical Reporter.
Medical Bulletin.
Medical Fortnightly.
Medical Mirror.
Medical News.
Medical Record.
Medical Review.
Medicine.
New York Medical Journal.
New York Polyclinic.
North American Practitioner.
Occidental Medical Times.
Omaha Clinic.
Pacific Medical Review.
Quarterly Journal of Inebriety.
St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal.
Sanitarian.
University Medical Magazine.
Virginia Medical Monthly.
Weir's Index to the Medical Press.
Western Medical Review.
Yale Medical Journal.

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*Gift of St. Joseph Daily Herald.
**Gift of St. Joseph Daily Gazette.

APPENDIX "C"—LIST OF DONATIONS.

NAME	LOCATION	Nos.	Vols.	Pamp.
Abbott, Emerson T.	St. Joseph, Mo.		14	
Abercrombie, R. M.	St. Joseph, Mo.	33		
Atwill, J. W.	St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Brooklyn (N. Y.) Library				1
Campbell, C. W.	St. Joseph, Mo.		3	
Chicago (Ill.) Public Library				1
Christian Science Students	St. Joseph, Mo.	12	2	
Cleveland (O.) Public Library				1
Council Bluffs (Ia.) Free Public Library				1
Dana, J. C.	Denver, Colo.			1
Denver (Colo.) City Library		8		
Detroit (Mich.) Public Library				1
Dover (N. H.) Public Library				1
Eau Claire (Wis.) Public Library				1
Enoch Pratt Free Library	Baltimore, Md.			1
Fassett, C. W.	St. Joseph, Mo.	15		
Fiegenbaum, Miss Mary	St. Joseph, Mo.	22		
Fletcher Free Library	Burlington, Vt.			1
Furst, Miss Rachel	St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library				1
Hartford (Conn.) Public Library				1
Hartford (Conn.) Theological Seminary				1
Howard Memorial Library	New Orleans, La.			5
Hull, Mrs. G. C	St. Joseph, Mo.	80		
I. O. B. B., Joseph Lodge	St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Jersey City (N. J.) Free Public Library				4
Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library				1
Kingsbury, C. P.	St. Joseph, Mo.		6	
Kroll, Mrs. E. M. J	St. Joseph, Mo.	782		
Krug, Mrs. Henry, Jr.	St. Joseph, Mo.	36		
Lawrence (Mass.) Public Library				3
Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library				5
Missouri State Auditor	Jefferson City, Mo.		1	
Neumaerker, Rev. R.	St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
New Haven (Conn.) Free Public Library				1
New York (N. Y.) Public Library				3
New York State Teachers' Library	Albany, N. Y.			1
Ohio State Library	Columbus, O.			1
Parsons, J. R. and others	Chicago, Ill.			1
Patterson (N. J.) Free Public Library				1
Peabody Institute	Danvers, Mass.			1
Perry, Miss Annie M	St. Joseph, Mo.	1		
Philadelphia (Pa.) Library Company				2
Poughkeepsie (N. Y.) City Library				1
Providence (R. I.) Athenaeum				1
Rutt, C. L.	St. Joseph, Mo.			1
St. Joseph Gazette	St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
St. Louis (Mo.) Mercantile Library				1
St. Louis (Mo.) Public Library		1		
Salem (Mass.) Public Library				1
San Francisco (Cal.) Free Public Library				1
Scranton (Pa.) Public Library				2
Seattle (Wash.) Library Commission				1
Seattle (Wash.) Public Library				1
Senter, Miss L. C	St. Joseph, Mo.		2	
Somerville (Mass.) Public Library				1
Sons of the Revolution, Missouri Society			3	15
Taylor, E. M	St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Toronto (Ont.) Public Library				1
Trefz, Rev. E. F.	St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Tufts Library	Weymouth, Mass.			2
United States Government	Washington, D. C.	52	128	197
Warren County (Ill.) Library Association				2
Whittington, Dr. W. L.	St. Joseph, Mo.	51		
Wilson, Sydney S	St. Joseph, Mo			1
Worcester (Mass.) Free Public Library				1
Wright, Mrs. Purd B.	St. Joseph, Mo.	16		
Cochran, Mrs. C. F., St. Joseph, Mo., 2 Framed Pictures of Missouri State University, Columbia, Mo.				

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 1898

JOHN GERRAR
LIBRARY

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI.

Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 1898.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

OFFICERS:

President ..... John DeClue
Vice-president ..... Rev. J. L. Lawless
Secretary and Treasurer ..... Charles A. Pfeiffer

DIRECTORS.

Term Expires 1898.	Term Expires 1899.	Term Expires 1900
W. H. Morlock	H. K. White	John DeClue
J. W. Atwill	Chas. A. Pfeiffer	L. M. Smith
Dr. Barton Pitts	Rev. J. L. Lawless	James A. McEvoy

COMMITTEES.

LIBRARY—Atwill, Lawless, White.
ADMINISTRATION—Pitts, Atwill, DeClue.
BUILDING AND GROUNDS—Pfeiffer, Morlock, Lawless.
FINANCE—Morlock, Pfeiffer, Smith.
BY-LAWS—White, Morlock, McEvoy.

LIBRARY STAFF.

Purd B. Wright ..... Librarian
Lulu C. Senter ..... Assistant Librarian

ASSISTANTS.

Annie M. Perry, Cornelia L. Rathbun, *Erle H. Merriman, †Stella M. Bushnell, ††Eudora Martin, ‡Miranda Olds. John Norton, Messenger.

*Resigned July 20, 1897.
†Resigned Feb. 24, 1898.
††Appointed July 20, 1897.
‡Appointed Feb. 24, 1898.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of St. Joseph, Mo.:

GENTLEMEN: Pursuant to the requirements of law, I herewith present the Eighth Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1898.

Despite a decrease in the amount of money to be expended for the library, the year past has witnessed the largest growth in its history. While the circulation was somewhat less than last year, it is still very large for the number of volumes in the library. The expense for circulation showed a decrease of three-tenths of one cent per volume, which is gratifying in the extreme.

Realizing the need of securing more money for the library in order that the number of books might the more rapidly be increased, thus decreasing the expense incident to constant use of few volumes, it was decided by the Board of Directors to submit the question to the voters of increasing the proportion of taxes allotted the library from three-tenths to five-tenths of of a mill. But $13.40 was expended in placing the matter before the people. The newspaers of the city, with a most pleasing unanimity, supported the proposition, publishing many columns in its favor. Of 4,474 votes cast on the proposition, 3,583 were for and only 891 against. Under the law, it is necessary to secure a majority of all voters voting at the election. There being 7,899 votes polled, the proposition failed by only 362 votes. The hard political fight in progress, together with the fact that a new form of ticket was used for the first time which required no scratching from the "straight ticket" voter, militated against the library. In precincts where the library had representatives to remind people to vote on the library proposition, it carried largely. The Board had no money to employ persons to remain near all the polling booths, and the voters simply forgot to vote on the measure.

For the coming year the Library will have about the same amount of money as it had last year, the city already having made a library apportionment of $7,200.

A summary of the reports following shows that the library contains 14,859 volumes, a net gain during the year of 1,694. Circulation for the year, 116,030. Number of card-holders, 4,352.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. DECLUE,
President.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1898.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: I herewith submit a detailed report of the financial operations of the Board for the fiscal year ending April 19, 1898:

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS—SCHEDULE A.

1897.			
June	8.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	$ 30 00
June	14.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	15 00
July	16.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	30 00
Aug.	13.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	30 00
Sept.	14.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
Oct.	15.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	30 00
Nov.	15.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	30 00
Dec.	15.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
1898.			
Jan.	14.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	30 00
Feb.	10.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	30 00
Mar.	15.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
Apr.	14.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
			$325 00

DISBURSEMENTS—SCHEDULE B.

1897.			
June	8.	Deposited with City Treasurer	$ 30 00
June	14.	Deposited with City Treasurer	15 00
July	16.	Deposited with City Treasurer	30 00
Aug.	13.	Deposited with City Treasurer	30 00
Sept.	14.	Deposited with City Treasurer	25 00
Oct.	15.	Deposited with City Treasurer	30 00
Nov.	15.	Deposited with City Treasurer	30 00
Dec.	15.	Deposited with City Treasurer	25 00
1898.			
Jan.	14.	Deposited with City Treasurer	30 00
Feb.	10.	Deposited with City Treasurer	30 00
Mar.	15.	Deposited with City Treasurer	25 00
			$300 00
		Balance in hands of treasurer, Chas. A. Pfeiffer	25 00
			$325 00

GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS—SCHEDULE C.

Balance in hands city treasurer May 1, 1897			$250 36
Receipts from collections upon an apportionment made by the Common Council of $7,500, and placed to the credit of the Free Public Library:			
1897.			
May,	Collections	$3,885 00	
June	Collections	414 72	
July.	Collections	354 82	
Aug.	Collections	563 92	
Sept.	Collections	389 47	
Oct.	Collections	379 27	
Nov.	Collections	442 65	
Dec.	Collections	158 88	
1898.			
Jan.	Collections	185 25	
Feb.	Collections	240 52	
March.	Collections	143 74	
Apr.	Collections. (No report from comptroller		
		$7,158 77	

DISBURSEMENTS—SCHEDULE D.

1897.		
May.	Vouchers	$ 532 08
June,	Vouchers	306 16
July,	Vouchers	703 21
Aug.	Vouchers	454 65
Sept.	Vouchers	686 09
Oct.	Vouchers	668 06
Nov.	Vouchers	829 21
Dec.	Vouchers	615 40
1898.		
Jan.	Vouchers	623 97
Feb.	Vouchers	733 41
March,	Vouchers	523 74
Apr.	Vouchers	953 35
		$7,629 93

GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—RECAPITULATION—SCHEDULE E.

RECEIPTS.

Balance with city treasurer May 1, 1897	$ 250 36	
Collections as per schedule C	7,158 77	
Deposits with city treasurer, as per schedule B	300 00	
In hands of treasurer, Chas. A. Pfeiffer	25 00	
		$7,734 13

EXPENDITURES.

Vouchers as per schedule D	$7,629 93	
Amount withdrawn from Library Fund by Council and not replaced	30 00	
	$7,659 93	
*Balance on hand	74 20	
		$7,734 13
*In hands of city treasurer	$ 49 20	
In hands of board treasurer	25 00	
	$ 74 20	

SCHEDULE F.

Explanation of discrepancy between city treasurer's balance and balance shown by Chas. A. Pfeiffer, treasurer, on May 1, 1897:

Balance on hand, as per city treasurer's report, April 15, 1897	$ 797 00
Deposited with city treasurer, from Special Fund, April 22, 1897	33 00
	$ 830 00
Paid by city treasurer, vouchers, April 22, 1897	579 64
Balance on hand as per Chas. A. Pfeiffer's report	$ 250 36

The city of St. Joseph showed a balance of $797.00 in our favor at the close of the city fiscal year, April 15, 1897.

We closed our accounts on the 1st day of May, 1897; between these dates we deposited $33.00 with the city treasurer and issued vouchers on that officer for $579.64, thus showing a balance on our books in our favor of $250.36.

SCHEDULE G.

Explanation of discrepancy of amount to be collected and credited to Free Public Library and amount actually placed to its credit:

Amount apportioned	$7,500 00
Amount collected	7,158 77
Amount collected in April not reported.	
Amount uncollected	$ 341 23
From the above sum collected, the Common Council transferred out of the Free Public Library account the sum of	$ 250 00
And returned only the sum of	220 00
Showing the shortage exhibited in schedule E of	$ 30 00

EXHIBIT FROM CITY COMPTROLLER MARCH 31,1898—SCHEDULE H.

Balance April 15, 1897	$ 797 00
Trans. added	220 00
Collections	7,158 77
From library	33 00
From Library	300 00
	$8,508 77
Paid	$7,256 22
Trans. deducted	250 00
Balance	1,002 55
	$8,508 77
Appropriated	$7,870 03
Transferred	250 00
Available	388 74
	$8,508 77

TREASURER CHAS. A. PFEIFFER'S ACCOUNT, SAME DATE.

Balance on hand May 15, 1897	$ 250 36
Collections by city	7,158 77
Deposit with city treasurer	300 00
	$7,709 13
Paid out, vouchers	$6,676 58
Balance	1,032 55
	$7,709 13

Above account calls for a balance to our credit with the City of St. Joseph of $1,032.55, while the comptroller's statement shows a balance in our favor of $1,002.55, the difference of $30.00 being accounted for by the city having borrowed $250.00 from the Library Fund and returning but $220.00.

As shown by *Schedule C*, no report of collections in favor of the Free Public Library, on account of the apportionment of $7,500.00, from taxes collected from April 1 to 19, 1898, the close of the city's fiscal year, was made.

According to a statement made to your treasurer by the comptroller's office, this and all other collections were, by action of the Common Council, transferred to the water service fund, as well as all remaining balances, among them the balance to the credit of the Free Public Library. We consequently lose:

Amount borrowed by the Council and not replaced, Schedule E	$30 00
Balance due us on account of collection	49 20
	$79 20

Which amount I would recommend be asked from the new city administration, as money wrongly taken from our fund and obtained without our consent.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,

May 1, 1898. Treasurer.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN, } ss.

Before me, J. C. Hedenberg, a notary public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Charles A. Pfeiffer, treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., and made oath that the facts and figures above set forth are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal this 12th day of May, 1898.

[SEAL.] J. C. HEDENBERG,
Notary Public.

My commission expires Nov. 13, 1901.

NOTE—On the 10th inst. I was furnished a statement from the office of the city comptroller to the effect that the Library proportion of the city taxes collected from April 1 to 19, had it been apportioned, would have amounted to $176.37, making a total of $255.57 still due to the Library fund on the apportionment for the fiscal year 1897-98.

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,

May 11, 1898. Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

GENTLEMEN: Herewith is presented the Eighth Annual Report of the librarian, being my second.

The year just closed has been a fairly prosperous one for the library. The circulation shows a slight decrease as compared with the preceding year; a larger number of volumes have been added to the library than in any previous year, and the institution generally is in good working order, the books being in better physical condition than twelve months ago.

INVENTORY RESULTS.

An inventory of the library has just been taken, being the first thorough one in several years. It shows that during the eight years of the library's existence 78 volumes are unaccounted for. Of this number, 44 have been taken from the reference room, over which there has never been anything but a passing surveillance. Of the remainder missing, it is believed that a considerable proportion will eventually be located.

VOLUMES IN LIBRARY.

By an accurate count from the corrected shelf lists it was ascertained that the library contains 14,859 volumes, 2,562 of which were added during the year, as follows: Donations, classified, 76; periodicals, bound, 188; U. S. Government books, 283; purchases, 2,005. Withdrawals for the same period were 868, of which 841 were worn out, 17 lost and paid for, 10 missing. The net gain for the year was 1,694 volumes. Of the 14,859 volumes in the library, 11,113 are in the circulating department, 1,387 in the reference department, 902 being Poole periodicals; and 2,359 in the U. S. Government department.

Accessions and withdrawals are classified as follows:

	Assessions	Withdrawals	Net Gain
General	3	2	1
Philosophy	10	...	10
Religion	65	...	65
Sociology	70	1	69
Philology	6	...	6
Natural science	51	3	48
Useful arts	39	1	38
Fine arts	25	...	25
Literature	136	11	125
History	182	8	174

	Assessions	Withdrawals	Net Gain
Travel	89	6	83
Biography	130	4	126
Bound magazines, reference	171	7	164
Bound magazines, circulating	17	9	8
Other reference works	98	2	96
German	26	13	13
Fiction	1,161	802	359
Government Deposits	283	...	283
Total	2,562	868	1,694

FINANCIAL.

Expenditures for the year were as follows, salaries and rent, owing to a change in the by-laws making the library financial year close with that of the city, are for but eleven and one-half months:

Salaries	$3,437 98	
Rent	409 40	
Printing and Stationery	124 75	
Postage	18 00	
Heat	103 24	
Insurance	90 00	
Repairs	9 60	
Furniture	181 85	
Binding	621 29	
Periodicals	361 17	
Books	1,903 65	
Janitor	240 00	
Miscellaneous	129 00	$7,629 93

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS—RECEIPTS.

Balance in librarian's hands May 1, 1897	$ 14 58	
Fines	309 24	
Catalogues	61 35	
Miscellaneous	92 43	$ 477 60

EXPENDITURES.

Deposited with treasurer	$ 325 00	
*Incidental Expenses	145 21	
Balance forward	7 39	$ 477 60

*The incidental expense account includes all postage of the library (other than printed postal cards), freight and cartage on books, delivery station expenses, the purchase of ink, pens, pencils, and like small supplies.

BORROWERS.

The number of borrowers' cards in force is 4,352, a small increase over last year. Cards expire every two years, and the number given is found by deducting from the total registration all cards expiring, together with cancellations for any cause, such as removal of holder or guarantor from city, failure to pay large fines, etc.

CIRCULATION.

The number of volumes issued for home use was 116,030, a decrease of 4,823 as compared with the year before, but an increase of 6,957 over that of the fiscal year ending 1896. The total issue, including reference issues, was 117,483, volumes issued from the circulating department for use in the reference room showing an increase of 50 per cent. No record is kept of use of reference books.

There was little change in the percentage of circulation of the different classes of books. Fiction shows a slight falling off, while a corresponding gain is noted in natural science, useful arts, literature, travel and periodicals.

Business depressions result in an increased use of the library, while general activity results otherwise. In periods of commercial quiet a large number of the unemployed naturally have more time for reading, and are liberal patrons of the free library. A return to normal conditions finds little idle time on their hands, preventing the giving of so much attention to books. An investigation among card-holders in three of our largest factories developed the fact that in 1896-7 hundreds of employes worked short hours, while during the past nine months they have worked full time or over time. The general interest in the war and the incidents leading thereto has caused many people to become more general newspaper readers, thus affecting the circulation of library books. Over one-half of the decrease in the number of books issued for home use during the year occurred during the last two months.

The average number of books issued to each card-holder during the year closing April 30, 1897, was a fraction under 28, while during the year just closed it was but 26.6. The library was open to the public 305 days, one day less than the year preceding. The number of volumes issued is equivalent to about 1.75 to each inhabitant.

Figuring the entire expense of the library (including books purchased and expenditures of every kind), against circulation, which does not take into account use of reference room books or periodicals in the reading room, the cost per volume issued was 6.5 cents, a decrease of .3 cent per volume. In view of the large expenditures for books, periodicals and furniture, this is gratifying.

The strenuous efforts in the past to improve the quality of fiction read continues, and with pleasing results. This is helped in a measure by a discontinuance of the purchase of many lower grade works, they not being replaced when worn out. This work of weeding out is in constant process.

and readers are perforce gradually led to better things. The policy pursued, I am pleased to say, has met with the hearty encouragement of the book committee and the endorsement of the board.

REFERENCE AND READING ROOMS.

The greatly increased use of the reference and reading rooms is more than pleasing, the larger number of people, young and old, coming to the former necessitating the placing of an extra table and additional chairs therein. A rearrangement of the stacks was also found necessary. The only discouraging feature is the continued loss of books. However, fewer have disappeared this year than usual, the result of the passage of an ordinance by the Common Council providing a heavy penalty for injuring or taking away without permission, any books, periodicals, etc., of the library. Other plans are in hand for preventing this loss of books and it is hoped that in the future this source of annoyance and expense will be reduced to a minimum.

More chairs were required and provided for the reading rooms as a result of the increased use, the newspapers provided by the Gazette and Herald Publishing companies, together with the periodicals purchased, being the attraction.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

The work with the schools is progressing favorably in all ways, limited only by the means at command. In addition to the placing of boxes of selected books in suburban schools, the shelves have been open to the teachers on all occasions practicable. Special reading lists are also kept up for the assistance of pupils in the high schools, including the history and literature classes, and they prove not only helpful to the young people but of great assistance to the desk attendants. In this connection, I would recommend that the rules permitting two books to be issued on one card to persons 18 years old or over be amended, so that pupils in the high schools, with the consent of their parents or guardians, may secure two books, an extra card to be issued to them as a school, non-fiction card. Had the library a sufficient number of volumes, I would recommend the entire abolishment of the age restriction.

DELIVERY STATIONS.

The delivery stations established the first of the year, on my recommendation, have fully demonstrated their need. These stations are located in the extreme northern, eastern and southern portions of the city. Station No. 1 is in the Elfred Pharmacy, 2824 St. Joseph avenue (Walker's addition), Frank S. Elfred, proprietor. Station No. 2 is in Wyatt Park Pharmacy, 2613 Lafayette street (Wyatt Park), Jacob M. Kock, manager, keeper. Station No. 3 is in Feltenstein's Pharmacy, Commercial street (South Park), Dr. D. W. Feltenstein, proprietor. Stations 1 and 2 are in branch postoffices, and

3 directly opposite one. The gentlemen named have not only given their services free in caring for the books, but have shown great interest in the library work. Mr. W. T. VanBrunt, manager of the street railway company, has given all the assistance possible, collecting and delivering the boxes of books by railway employes at a very small cost to the library. Deliveries and collections are made twice each week, books being brought to the library Tuesday and Friday mornings and returned the afternoon of the same days. On the first delivery there were but eight books; the second, eighteen; third, thirty-seven; and at the present time there are about sixty. The total number delivered to date through the stations is 1,640. This number would have been larger but for the fact that the stations are located in the same neighborhoods as are the school boxes. The cost, outside the making of the boxes, has been $16.50. Arrangements have just been made for establishing a delivery station in the rooms of the Y. W. C. A. for the exclusive use of workers among young women. This station will entail no expense beyond providing the delivery box.

There is a pressing necessity for at least one other station, on South Sixth street. Applications have also come in from Frederick avenue and South Eleventh street for the privilege of keeping the stations when established in those localities.

APPLICATION BOXES.

To overcome the difficulty of reaching people who for any reason were diffident about coming to the library and asking for application blanks, a neat, inexpensive hanging box, made of straw board, was devised, upon which was printed the following:

> FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.
>
> Tenth and Sylvanie Sts.
>
> BOOKS LOANED FREE.
>
> Take one of these applications, fill it out, have some real estate owner sign as your guarantor, then bring it to the library and books will be loaned you without charge.
>
> Library open from 8:30 a. m., to 9 p. m.

These boxes, filled with blank applications, have been placed in the larger factories, shops and stores, and the result has proven entirely satisfactory. As soon as the spring examinations in the schools are passed, a box will be placed in each school, in charge of the principal, and talks will be made to the pupils, explaining the library use, and it is hoped in this way

to get a sufficiently strong hold on the young folks during the vacation period to retain them during the school term for helpful reading.

JUVENILE ROOM.

It is daily becoming more apparent that the real work of the public library is with the youth of the country. In order to do this work effectually, especial attention must be given it. We are doing all that is possible under prevailing conditions, but until a juvenile room is provided, which the little people may feel is their own, and where they may go to the books on the selection of books such as may be chosen, would result in many more young people using the library, with great benefit to themselves, and in a short time the percentage of fiction issued from this library would show a large decrease.

LOCAL HISTORY.

Of the special work of the library, attention has been given to securing everything possible relating to the history of St. Joseph, Buchanan county and the Platte Purchase, embracing the Northwestern counties of the state. A number of volumes have been obtained, including interesting histories of Buchanan, Platte, Nodoway, Holt and Atchison counties, as well as other valuable documents. It is hoped in time to make this feature of value. This library has the only complete set of printed city ordinances known, copies of the first and second volumes printed having been secured only last week. It is pleasant to announce that of this collection, all but one volume were presented to the library.

BOOK RENEWALS BY TELEPHONE.

A departure which has seemed to please the patrons of the library was instituted last fall, it being the privilege of renewing books by telephone or postal card. The telephone has been used largely, and the plan has given great satisfaction. It causes little or no more work on the part of the attendants than would be entailed were the books or cards brought to the library. The patrons, however, are saved the walk up the hill. In renewing books by telephone, it is required that the applicant give name, number of card, number of book, and date issued. These are penciled on renewal slip blanks, printed on yellow paper, which are strapped to the book slip. These are then placed in the slip box, counted the next morning and placed back in the slip tray under the date originally issued. There is no trouble in locating them, and the yellow slip prevents them going on the fine list.

LIBRARY NOTES.

Work at the delivery desk has been simplified by adopting the one-slip system. Work is thus facilitated, and fewer charging errors occur.

A change in the rules regarding magazines, these now being issued for four instead of seven days, accounts for the increase of circulation noted in this department.

The locating of a "new book" shelf in close proximity to the delivery desk, on which all new titles are placed, has been appreciated by the patrons, as they may readily see what new books are in at any time.

During the year all the books in the circulating department have been re-labeled, in a uniform manner, the appearance of the library being thereby materially improved.

Four bulletins, two of four, one of six and one of eight pages, containing titles of new books, classified, were issued, the type being furnished, as reported last year, by the kindness of the Herald and Gazette Publishing Companies, after the lists had been published in their daily newspapers.

An effort was made to classify the German books, but, owing to changes in the staff, this work was retarded, about one-half only being accomplished. However, it is expected that this summer will witness its completion.

Government books were rearranged and are now easily accessible, some of them proving of great value. The set of Congressional Records is practically complete, 145 volumes being secured during the year.

Volumes withdrawn, which were in fit condition, were placed in the fire department of the city, county jail, poor farm and city workhouse. A number of magazines, etc., have also been placed in the rooms of the police matron.

Of the 1,556 volumes sent to the bindery, 1,386 were for rebinding, 170 being magazines. In addition to this, a large number of volumes were repaired in the library, several hundred being provided with leather backs, thus greatly prolonging their lives.

Special lists were gotten out as occasion seemed to warrant, those of books on electricity, Cuba, Alaska and the Klondike country, being the most important.

During the year Mr. Erle H. Merriman and Miss Stella Bushnell, of the library staff, resigned to go to the Buffalo library, their places being filled from the library class.

Following will be found (1) classified table of circulation, (2) list of periodicals taken, and (3) donations other than newspapers.

To the assistants in the library are due my sincere thanks in recognition of their willing and hearty co-operation in all matters of library detail.

For the cordial endorsement and support of any plans proposed for the improvement of the library or its work, for their universal kindness and interest, the members of the board of directors have placed me under many obligations.

Respectfully submitted.

PURD B. WRIGHT,

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1898. Librarian.

STATE OF MISSOURI,
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN, } ss.

Before me, U. S. Grant Peabody, a notary public in and for the County aforesaid, personally appeared Purd B. Wright, librarian of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., and made oath that the facts and figures herein relating to receipts and expenditures, contents of library and books added, are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

[SEAL.] U. S. GRANT PEABODY,

Commission expires Feb. 15, 1900. Notary Public.

(1)—CLASSIFIED TABLE OF CIRCULATION.

	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Total	Per Cent
Philosophy	28	31	46	58	33	37	47	45	54	33	48	43	523	
Religion	66	41	54	52	36	74	49	47	62	70	66	72	689	
Sociology	69	52	34	45	31	30	49	28	68	73	78	61	618	
Philology	7	3	9	2	7	6	4	9	2	1	4	6	60	03.06
Natural science	56	50	60	65	66	89	96	103	120	117	142	99	1062	
Useful arts	39	24	26	37	44	39	44	43	52	51	63	62	524	
Fine arts	61	65	58	59	50	39	57	60	85	89	68	79	770	
Literature	338	261	249	251	226	291	287	314	376	456	389	301	3839	03.32
Travel	152	119	141	140	118	157	174	180	205	213	229	201	2029	01.76
Biography	167	128	120	120	118	166	172	217	181	169	219	167	1914	01.68
History	237	178	210	168	173	300	256	292	347	353	368	259	3141	02 71
Magazines	358	353	362	347	370	359	397	379	382	412	433	426	4378	03.94
German	325	246	251	254	231	296	283	336	326	315	332	318	3513	03.03
Fiction	7620	8913	9043	8742	7343	7060	6875	6679	7 71	8039	8036	7409	92740	79.90
Total	9508	9564	10663	10340	8801	8993	8865	8706	10141	10396	10575	9478	116030	100.
Ref. use from circulating department	177	37	64	33	50	138	137	135	244	223	116	99	1453	.....
Total use	9685	9601	10737	10373	8851	9131	9002	8841	10385	10619	10691	9577	117483	.....
Days open	25	26	26	26	25	26	25	26	25	23	27	26	305	.....
Average daily issue	387	370	404	397	375	351	360	340	415	461	394	368	285	.....
Fine notices sent	122	157	110	95	105	121	119	157	122	90	111	135	1469	.....

(2) LIST OF PERIODICALS TAKEN.

QUARTERLY.

1 Cyclopaedie Review of Current History.

MONTHLY.

1 American Electrician.
1 American Teacher.
1 *American Medical Journalist.
1 Art Amateur.
2 Atlantic Monthly.
2 Blackwoods Magazine.
1 Bookman.
5 Century.
4 Cosmopolitan.
1 Cumlative Index.
2 Current Literature.
1 Eclectic Magazine.
1 Educational Review.
1 Fire and Water. (Gift.)
2 Forum.
5 Harper's.
1 Harper's Round Table.
1 Inland Printer.
1 Ladies' Home Journal.
1 Land of Sunshine. (Gift).
1 Library Journal.
3 Lippincott's.
1 Literary News.
4 McClure's.
1 Macmillan's.
1 *Medical Herald.
1 Missionary Review of the World.
3 Munsey's.
2 New England.
1 North American Review.
1 Outing.
1 Overland.
2 Popular Science.
2 Public Libraries.
2 Review of Reviews.
3 St. Nicholas.
5 Scribner's.
1 *Vegetarian.
1 *Western Fruit Grower.

SEMI-MONTHLY.

1 Dial.

WEEKLY.

1 American. (Gift).
1 Atheneum, London, England.
1 *Christian Intelligencer.
1 Christian Science Journal. (Gift).
1 Critic.
1 *Democrat-Lever, Plattsburg, Mo.
2 Engineering Record. (Gift).
1 Harper's Bazar.
1 Harper's Weekly.
1 *Leader, Plattsburg, Mo.
1 Leslie's Weekly.
1 Illustrated American.
1 *Interstate Grocer, St. Louis, Mo.
1 *Journal of Commerce, St. Joseph.
1 Journal of Education.
1 *L. A. W. Bulletin and Good Roads.
1 *Ohio Merchant, Cleveland, O.
1 Outlook.
1 Parish Message. (Gift).
1 Public Opinion.
1 Publisher's Weekly.
1 School Journal.
1 Scientific American.
1 Scientific American Supplement.
1 *Shoe and Leather Gazette, St. Louis.
1 *The Trader, (El Comerciante), Mexico, Mex.
1 *Trade Reporter, Seattle, Wash
1 Western Electrician.
1 Youth's Companion.

DAILY NEWSPAPERS.

(Donated by Herald and Gazette Pub. Co's)

Atlanta (Ga.) Journal.
Baltimore (Md.) News.
Brooklyn (N. Y.) Times.
Buffalo (N. Y.) Evening News.
Cameron (Mo.) Daily Sun.
Chicago (Ill.) Times-Herald.
Chillicothe (Mo) Constitution.
Congressional Record (courtesy of Congressman C. F. Cochran).
Denver (Colo.) Republican.
Des Moines (Ia.) Register.
Des Moines (Ia.) Capital.
Detroit (Mich.) Journal.
Freeport (Ill.) Democrat.
Hannibal (Mo.) Journal.
Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union.
Jefferson City (Mo.) Tribune.
Kansas City (Kan.) Gazette.
Leavenworth (Kan.) Standard.
Leavenworth (Kan.) Times.
Los Angeles (Cal.) Express.
Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal.
Minneapolis (Minn.) Tribune.

LIST OF PERIODICALS TAKEN—Cont'd.

DAILY NEWSPAPERS.

New York Mail and Express.
Omaha (Neb. Bee.
Ottumwa (Ia.) Courier.
Philadelphia (Pa.) Ledger.
Philadelphia (Pa.) Times.
Phoenix (Ariz.) Republican.
San Francisco (Cal.) Bulletin.
Sedalia (Mo.) Capital.
Sedalia (Mo.) Democrat.
Springfield (Mass.) Republican
St. Joseph (Mo) Herald. (Herald Pub. Co.)
St. Joseph (Mo.) News. (News Pub. Co.)
St. Joseph (Mo.) Volksblatt. (Pubs.)
St. Joseph (Mo.) Live Stock Journal. (Pubs.)
St. Louis (Mo.) Chronicle.
St. Louis (Mo.) Globe-Democrat.
St. Louis (Mo.) Republic.
Toledo (O.) Blade.
Washington (D. C.) Post.
West Superior (Wis.) Ledger.

LIST OF MEDICAL JOURNALS.

Donated by the St. Joseph Academy of Medicine.
Alienist and Neurologist.
American Medical Review.
American Medico-Surgical Bulletin
Annals of Surgery.
Archives of Pediatrics.
Buffalo Medical and Surgical Journal.
Bulletin of the American Academy of Medicine.
Chicago Medical Recorder.
Denver Medical Times.
International Journal of Surgery.
Iowa Medical Journal.
Journal of the American Medical Association.
Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases.
Kansas City Medical Index.
Kansas City Medical Record.
Kansas Medical Journal.
Langsdale's Lancet.
Matthews' Medical Quarterly.
Medical and Surgical Reporter.
Medical Bulletin.
Medical Fortnightly.
Medical Mirror.
Medical News.
Medical Record.
Medical Review.
Medicine.
New York Medical Journal.
New York Polyclinic.
North American Practitioner.
Occidental Medical Times.
Omaha Clinic.
Pacific Medical Review.
Quarterly Journal of Inebriety.
St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal.
Sanitarian.
University Medical Magazine.
Virginia Medical Monthly.
Weir's Index to the Medical Press
Western Medical Review.
Yale Medical Journal.

(3)—DONATIONS.

NAME	Nos.	Vols.	Pamp.
Anonymous		1	
Armour Institute, Chicago, Ill.			1
Beck, Joseph M., Philadelphia, Pa			2
Bender, John C., St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Bittinger, John L., St. Joseph, Mo.		2	
Bittinger, Mrs. John L., St. Joseph, Mo. (Files Daily Herald)		1	
Boston Book Co., Boston, Mass	4		
Boston (Mass.) Public Library			1
Bronson Library, Waterbury, Conn.			2
Brooklyn (N. Y.) Library			1
Browne, E. C., St. Joseph, Mo.	124		
Buffalo (N. Y.) Library		1	7
Bullard, Rev. Henry S., St. Joseph, Mo.		27	
Burton, James, St. Joseph, Mo.		16	
Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.			1
Carpenter's Company, Philadelphia, Pa.		2	
Cleveland (O.) Board of Education			1
Cochran, Hon. C. F., Washington D. C.			3
Common Council, St. Joseph, Mo.		3	
Council Bluffs (Ia.) Free Public Library			1
Denver (Colo.) City Library			6
Detroit (Mich.) Public Library			1
Evanston (Ill.) Free Public Library			2
Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.			1
Girard, Stephen, Statue Company, Philadelphia, Pa.		1	
Gloversville (N. Y.) Free Library			1
Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library			1
Hartford (Conn.) Public Library			3
Herald Publishing Co., St. Joseph, Mo.		2	
Hopkins, Rev. John, St. Joseph, Mo.		2	
Hudson-Kimberly Publishing Co., Kansas City, Mo.		1	
Indianapolis (Ind.) Free Public Library			1
Indian Rights Association, Philadelphia, Pa.			5
Jersey City (N. J.) Free Public Library			6
Joseph Lodge, No. 73, I. O. B. B., St. Joseph, Mo.		5	
Journal of Commerce, St. Joseph, Mo.		2	
Kane, P. P., Chief Fire Dept. and ex-officio factory inspector, St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Kirk, John R., Superintendent Public Instruction, Jefferson City, Mo.		1	
Labrunerie, A. E., St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Lawrence (Mass.) Public Library			5
Lemcke & Buechner, New York		1	
Liverpool (Eng.) Commis'rs of Public Libraries, Art Galleries and Museums			2
Macdonald, C. C., St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Martin, Miss Dora, St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Mercantile Library, Philadelphia, Pa.			2
Mercantile Library, New York			2
Merriman, E. H. St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Milne, J. M.			1
Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library		2	
Missouri State University, Columbia, Mo.		2	
Missouri State Geologist		11	
Morton, Dr. Daniel D., St. Joseph, Mo.			3
Nash, Robert M., St. Joseph, Mo.		16	4
Newark (N. J.) Public Library			9
New Haven, (Conn.) Free Public Library			10
Newton (Mass.) Free Public Library			1
New York Public Library			10
Northwestern University, Evanston-Chicago, Ill.			1
Ohio Library Commission, Columbus, O.			1
Omaha (Neb.) Public Library			3
Patterson, (N. J.) Free Public Library			1
Perry, Miss Annie M., St. Joseph, Mo.		2	
Peoria (Ill.) Free Public Library			3
Philadelphia (Pa.) Public Library			1
Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.			1
Providence (R. I.) Public Library			6
Quincy (Ill.) Public Library			1
Robinson Hamline E., Maryville, Mo.		1	
St. Louis (Mo.) Free Public Library	2		
Scranton (Pa.) Public Library			2
Schroer, Philip, St. Joseph, Mo.		11	
Seattle (Wash.) Public Library			1
Sedalia (Mo.) Free Public Library			1
State Library, New York		4	
Strong, John P., St. Joseph, Mo.	177	10	
Thurston, Hon. L. M.			1
Toole, Wm. C., St. Joseph, Mo.		1	

NAME	Nos.	Vols.	Pamp.
Trefz, Rev. E. F., St. Joseph, Mo.		1	
Tufts Library, Weymouth, Mass.			1
Warren County Literary and Reading Room Association, Monmouth, Ill.			2
Wilson. Sidney, St. Joseph, Mo.	120		
Winthrop, Robert C., Boston, Mass.		1	
Wisconsin Library Commission			2
Worcester (Mass.) Free Public Library			2
Wright, Purd B., St. Joseph, Mo.		5	

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: As required by law, the finance committee herewith submits for your consideration a report of the receipts and expenditures of the Free Public Library for the year ending April 30, 1898:

SPECIAL FUND—RECEIPTS.

Collections received from librarian		$ 325 00

DISBURSEMENTS.

Deposited with city treasurer	$ 300 00	
Balance in hand Board treasurer	25 00	$ 325 00

GENERALD FUND—RECEIPTS.

Balance in hands city treasurer May 1, 1897	$ 250 36	
Collected to April 1 from apportionment of $7,500	7,158 77	
Deposited by Board treasurer from library collections	300 00	$7,709 13

EXPENDITURES.

Monthly bills as per vouchers	$7,629 93	
Amount withdrawn by Common Council	30 00	
Balance in hands city treasurer	49 20	$7,709 13

The library is also entitled to its proportion of the city collections from April 1 to 19, which is not included in the receipts as above. Steps will be taken to see that the library receives its proper share.

Under the revised by-laws, the library year now closes with that of the city, and no trouble will be experienced hereafter with vexatious balances, which have always been a source of trouble and annoyance.

The proposition to increase the proportion of taxes allotted the Library having failed to carry, your committee met, by appointment, the finance committee of the Common Council, asked for and was granted an apportionment of $7,200 for the ensuing year.

The accounts of the treasurer and librarian have been checked and found to be correct.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. MORLOCK.
CHAS. A. PFEIFFER.
LEWIS M. SMITH.

May 1, 1898. Finance Committee.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: An examination of the books in the Library shows their condition to be as good as their very large use will permit. Classification of the German department progresses favorably. The relabeling in uniform manner of all volumes in the circulating department has added much to the appearance thereof, while the rearrangement of the government books will make them more readily accessible. Improvements in the reference room should be appreciated by the users thereof.

Two changes in the library force occurred during the year, Mr. Erle H. Merriman and Miss Stella Bushnell resigning to accept positions in the Buffalo library. Miss Eudora Martin and Miss Miranda Olds, were appointed from the library class to fill the vacancies.

The work of the library staff has been such as to meet our hearty approval.

Respectfully submitted,

BARTON PITTS.
J. W. ATWILL.
JNO. DECLUE.
Administration Committee.

REPORT OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: During the year just closed 2,562 volumes were added to the library, as follows: Donations classified, 76; periodicals bound, 188; numbered 868, 841 wearing out, 17 lost and paid for, with 10 unaccounted for. The library contains at the present time 14,859 volumes, 11,113 being in the circulating department, 1,387 in the reference room, and 2,359 in the Government department. All purchases made met with the approval of the committee.

Continued care has been exercised in the selection of books, the effort being to purchase only those of the better class. Lack of means prevented the purchase of many volumes necessary for a library for students in special lines, but it is believed that the general worker may be well provided for.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. ATWILL.
H. K. WHITE.
J. L. LAWLESS.
Library Committee.

REPORT OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

GENTLEMEN: Your Committee on Building and Grounds herewith submits a report of the expenditures in the department under their charge during the year, as required by the by-laws:

Rent	$ 409 40	
Janitor	240 00	
Insurance	90 00	
Fuel	103 24	
Furniture	181 85	
Repairs	9 60	
Water	40 00	
Ice	4 40	$1,078 49

The increased expenditure in the furniture account was occasioned by the necessity for book cases, tables and chairs. In this regard the library is now fairly well equipped.

During the year the committee and the librarian secured from the owners of the building needed improvements in the way painting, papering and a new hot-air furnace. Heretofore the library has been heated by stoves and grates. A saving of $85.36 was effected in fuel.

The Board continues under obligations to the Board of Park Commissioners and Park Superintendent Rau for plants with which the grounds are made very attractive. The interest of David McKinney, the janitor, in the care of the grounds, continues.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER.
WM. H. MORLOCK.
J. L. LAWLESS.
Building and Grounds Committee.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY ST. JOSEPH, MO.

FISCAL YEAR
ENDING APRIL 30, 1899.

THE
JOHN CRERAR
LIBRARY

Ninth Annual Report

of the

Board of Directors

of the

Free Public Library

of the

City of St. Joseph, Mo.

Fiscal Year Ending
April 30, 1899.

Free Public Library

St. Joseph, Mo.

OFFICERS.

President ..... John DeClue
Vice-President ..... Rev. J. L. Lawless
Secretary and Treasurer ..... Charles A. Pfeiffer

DIRECTORS.

Term Expiring 1899.	Term Expiring 1900.	Term Expiring 1901.
H. K. White,	John DeClue,	Dr. J. B. Riley,
Charles A. Pfeiffer,	L. M. Smith,	John M. Stewart
Rev. J. L. Lawless,	James A. McEvoy,	Charles P. Cargill.

COMMITTEES.

LIBRARY—White, Lawless and McEvoy.
ADMINISTRATION—DeClue, Stewart, Smith.
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS—Lawless, Riley, Pfeiffer.
FINANCE—Pfeiffer, Smith, Cargill.
BL-LAWS—McEvoy, White, Stewart.

LIBRARY STAFF.

Purd B. Wright, Librarian.

Lulu C. Senter, Assistant Librarian.

Assistants—Annie M. Perry, Cornelia L. Rathbun, Eudora Martin, Miranda Olds.

Messenger—Roy Whitmore.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of St. Joseph, Mo.:

Gentlemen: In accordance with the provisions of the law governing Free Public Libraries, I herewith present the Ninth Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1899.

The reports of the officers, committees and librarian, presented herewith, show what has been accomplished during the year. While the circulation of books was not so large as the year before, nor the growth of the library so extensive, most excellent reasons are given why it could hardly be otherwise. On account of the epidemic during the year, the library was closed two weeks, which naturally decreased its use, while the money at the command of the Board of Directors being less than for several years, prevented the purchase of as many books as heretofore. The members of the Board, however, feel that they have done the best possible with the means under their control, and express themselves as satisfied with the results.

As a result of the natural growth of the library, although necessarily slow, the present quarters are beginning to cramp the work attempted to be done. The Board of Directors is anxiously looking forward to the time when quarters more suitable for modern library work may be secured.

It is felt that the people generally are beginning to realize the real value of the library from a purely educational standpoint, and to acknowledge the vast help it gives in school work. This is one of the favorable conditions evolved from adverse circumstances.

A summary of the reports submitted herewith shows that the library now contains 17,256 volumes, a gain for the year of 1,455. Circulation for the twelve months past, 105,717.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. DeCLUE,
President.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1899.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.:

Gentlemen: Herewith is submitted a detailed report of the financial transactions of the Board for the fiscal year ending April 17, 1899:

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT.

(Accruing from collections for fines, sale of catalogues and from other miscellaneous receipts, collected by the Librarian, minus amounts paid out by the Librarian for incidental expenses, principally for postage, express charges and similar minor expenditures; the statement of these collections and disbursements being rendered by the Librarian to the Board of Directors at their monthly meeting, and the surplus of the amount of money so collected is turned over to the Treasurer of the Board and accounted for in this statement):

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS—SCHEDULE A.

1898.			
Apr.	14.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	$ 25 00
May	12.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
June	9.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
July	13.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
Aug.	11.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
Sept.	8.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
Oct.	13.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
Nov.	10.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	35 00
Dec.	8.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	28 00
1899.			
Jan.	12.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	28 00
Feb.	10.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	25 00
Mar.	9.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	28 00
Apr.	13.	Received from Purd B. Wright, librarian	21 00
			$340 00

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—DISBURSEMENTS—SCHEDULE B.

1898.			
Apr.	19.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	$ 25 00
May	13.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	25 00
June	10.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	25 00
July	21.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	25 00
Aug.	20.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	25 00
Sept.	9.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	25 00
Oct.	13.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	25 00
Nov.	11.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	35 00
Dec.	9.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	28 00
1899.			
Jan.	13.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	28 00
Feb.	13.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	25 00
Mar.	10.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	28 00
Apr.	13.	Deposited with National Bank of St. Joseph	21 00
			$340 00

1899.

April 15. Withdrawn, being amount of check favor of Rice D. Gilkey, City Treasurer, to meet April vouchers allowed by the Board of Directors, and not fully provided for by the Common Council of the City of St. Joseph, Mo. $154 69

Balance on hand, in National Bank of St. Joseph $185 31

GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS—SCHEDULE C.

Receipts from collections upon an apportionment made by the Common Council of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., of $7,200.00, and placed to the credit of the Free Public Library:

1898.	
May collections	$3,974 90
June collections	340 77
July collections	279 14
August collections	452 34
September collections	378 72
October collections	353 74
November collections	413 06
December collections	187 34
1899.	
January collections	200 88
February collections	228 81
March collections	214 56
April. From sinking fund	82 65
April 15. From special revenue account	154 69
	$7,261 10

GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—DISBURSEMENTS—SCHEDULE D.

Expenditures, embracing salaries, rent, fuel, water, purchase of books and magazines, cost of binding and printing, and for the purchase of library supplies, as detailed in the separate vouchers on file with the City Auditor of the City of St. Joseph, Mo.:

1898.	
May vouchers	$ 545 59
June vouchers	490 85
July vouchers	625 85
August vouchers	656 11
September vouchers	498 63
October vouchers	619 67
November vouchers	836 18
December vouchers	554 69
1899.	
January vouchers	655 84
February vouchers	655 71
March vouchers	567 29
April vouchers	554 69
	$7,261 10

GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS—SCHEDULE A. GENERAL STATEMENT.

The City of St. Joseph, Mo., should have placed to the credit of the Free Public Library, at the beginning of this fiscal year, the sum of money due it from the previous year, towit:

Amount of money borrowed by Common Council and not replaced	$ 30 00
Balance due on account of collections, 1897-98	49 20
All of collections to the credit of Free Public Library from April 1 to 19, 1898	176 37
	$255 57

The Finance Committee, together with the Librarian, waited upon the Finance Committee of the Common Council at the beginning of the fiscal year and sought to have this sum placed to the credit of the Free Public Library, because the sum mentioned was wrongfully withheld, but the effort proved unsuccessful.

The apportionment made the previous year was $7,500; the Finance Committee of the Common Council reduced the apportionment to the credit of the Free Public Library to the sum of $7,200 for the present fiscal year, but placed to our credit only the sum of $7,106.41, leaving another balance due the Free Public Library of $93.59, or a total sum of $349.16 for the past two years.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,

May 1, 1899. Treasurer.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
County of Buchanan. } ss.

Before me, J. C. Hedenberg, a notary public in and for the County aforesaid, personally appeared Charles A. Pfeiffer, Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., and made oath that the facts and figures above set forth are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal this 4th day of May, 1899.

(Seal.) J. C. HEDENBERG,
Notary Public.

My commission expires Nov. 13th, 1901.

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo:

Gentlemen: As required by the by-laws of the Board, I herewith present the Ninth Annual Report of the Librarian, for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1899:

The year has been an unusual one in the history of the library, inasmuch as the conditions with which it has contended were somewhat out of the ordinary. The beginning of the Spanish-American war affected the circulation of this library, as it did that of all libraries of which reports have come to hand. With the ceasing of hostilities, library work resumed its normal course, and the issue of books for September, 1898, showed the first increase reported for several months. Our trouble was scarcely over, however, for at this time cases of diphtheria became quite numerous, and in October it was declared epidemic by the board of health. Notwithstanding the fact that reports were being received by the library from the healtth department twice each day, and that every precaution was being taken to prevent the spread of the disease through library books, the health officer deemed it advisable that the issue of books for home use be discontinued, and closed the library for a period of two weeks (Oct. 24-Nov. 5), the public schools being closed during the same period. No books were issued during this time, the reference and reading rooms being kept open for use of adults only. While this caused a material reduction in the circulation for the year, the greatest harm resulted from many timid people not using the library through fear of contagion after the disease had abated. The health officer not only approved but cheerfully aided to the extent of his power in all plans for the protection of the library. In reaching the class of people last mentioned, much of the library work must be done over. While all of these readers have not returned, they are slowly doing so. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the work of the year is not without some most encouraging features.

While the number of volumes issued for home use was but 104,146, a decrease of 11,884 as compared with the previous year, the use of books in the reference room from the circulating department was gratifying, the increase being about 8 per cent. An interesting feature of the circulation statistics is that of the total decrease noted, 11,767 was in fiction, and an additional decrease in the lighter current periodicals, thus presenting a gain in other classes. The most noticeable change is in the percentages column, fiction declining 2.14 per cent, while other classes show gains, this being especially marked in history, literature and travel.

The number of borrowers' cards in active use is 4,284, a slight decrease. This condition is possibly accounted for by the failure of many to renew cards which expired during the epidemic, and by the further fact that all cards held in South St. Joseph, outside the city limits, and not paid for, were called in. This little suburb had heretofore been permitted use of the library, but its rapid growth and the large increase in the call for cards caused a strict enforcement of the rules. This was done on account of the inabil-

ity of the library to meet the demands of those legally entitled to its use.

Charging the entire expense of conducting the library to home circulation, the cost per volume issued was 6.9 cents.

The volumes in the circulating department, exclusive of current periodicals, were issued from the library an average slightly in excess of eight times.

Accessions to the library during the year numbered 1807, of which 97 were donated, 236 periodicals bound, 1314 purchased, and 160 deposited by the United States government. Withdrawals for the same period were 352, making the net increase 1455 volumes. Total number of volumes now in the library, 17,226, classed as follows: Circulation, 13,034; reference, 1,703; government, 2,519.

The delivery stations have demonstrated their popularity, 5,592 volumes having been circulated through them. The stations continue as heretofore, in Walker's Addition, Wyatt Park and South Park, deliveries being made twice each week, as at first inaugurated. The use of the stations increases steadily, and would be more marked if deliveries could be arranged for oftener. Messrs. Frank S. Elfred, J. S. Kock and Dr. D. W. Feltenstein show their interest in the library by continuing as keepers of the stations.

The comparatively few volumes that could be spared from the library for sole use in the schools through means of school boxes, necessitated some other arrangement, as it was deemed unfair to place all the copies of certain useful and popular books in a few schools, thus depriving pupils of other schools, who might come to the library, of any of these books. To remedy this, so far as possible, a list of books was prepared, being arranged by classes, and annotated, making a printed pamphlet of twenty pages, of which 3,500 copies were distributed among the pupils of the old first, second and third grades (now the eighth, seventh and sixth). The library staff was assisted in the task of selection by committees of three teachers each, appointed at my request, by Prof. E. B. Neely, superintendent of the public schools; the first grade being represented by Misses Brennan, Peale and Cole; the second by Misses Schmitz and Wall and Mrs. Horn; and the third by Misses Senter and Fahey and Mrs. McClelland. To give these lists a fair trial no books were placed in the schools. Results have proven the success of the plan. At the request of teachers an extended list will be prepard for the ensuing school year. Boxes of books will also be placed in certain schools which are far removed from the library or the delivery stations. The work with the high school continues satisfactory, new lists being prepared for the different classes each year.

An attempt to interest the younger generation in books other than mere stories, resulted in the experiment of placing all the books, periodicals and pictures in the library relating to natural history in the directors' room and throwing it open for three days. The daily newspapers kindly gave space to announcements of "Nature Day at the Library," and the result was that, despite the fact that it was advertised but a few days, the room was crowded with interested little folks. The experiment proved so satisfactory that it will be repeated this year directly after the summer vacation begins, but on a more comprehensive scale.

Through the kindness of Mr. F. Thomas Ransom, of this city, chief clerk in the Missouri Geological Department, the library has obtained many state publications which it had been unable heretofore to secure. The work out-

lined for the ensuing year includes the cataloging and making accessible to the public the Missouri collection.

Mr. E. O. Wild, editor of the Journal of Commerce, has placed the library under obligations by aiding it to secure Warner's Library of the World's Best Literature," in thirty volumes. Other donations of especial value were from Joseph Lodge No. 72, I. O. B. B., and the American Book Co.

At the beginning of the year a "Supplement to the classified list of the circulating department," comprising additions from July 1, 1896, to April 1, 1898, was issued, being printed from the linotype slugs furnished the library by the Gazette and Herald Publishing Companies for bulletins, after use in the respective newspapers. During the year four bulletins of new books have been issued, compiled from newspaper lists as heretofore reported, the slugs being furnished by the newspapers named. All the newspapers of the city have shown a warm interest in the library and its work, publishing announcements from time to time as matters of news. The fiction shelf list of the library having been originally written in books, has caused considerable trouble and annoyance. It having been found necessary to prepare a new shelf list, cards were adopted, and the list is now completed, and it is hoped and believed will cause no trouble in the future. New shelf lists will also be made for the reference room.

A feature recently inaugurated was the preparation of "sick room collections," being numbers of illustrated papers, magazines, etc., for use especially by convalescents. While these collections are not permitted to be used in the case of cantagious diseases, the library is always willing to supply something for those so afflicted to read, the only requirement being that the reading matter so supplied be destroyed.

Of the 1113 books sent to the bindery, 877 were for rebinding, and 236 were periodicals.

Books withdrawn from circulation on account of their worn condition continue to be placed with the fire department, city hospital, county jail and poor farm, where additional use is obtained from them.

But two volumes are unaccounted for from the reference room this year, the smallest number missing in the history of the library. These two being bound volumes of a story magazine, hopes are entertained that they will be returned. The plan adopted by Mr. Wilcox, librarian of the Peoria (Ill.) public library—warning slips pasted on the front cover of each volume, containing an excerpt from the city ordinances—was tried, with the success noted.

On the pages following will be found (1) the financial statement, (2) accessions, (3) classified table of circulation, (4) list of donations, and (5) new Missouri library law.

The work of the library force and the library class has been such as to merit hearty commendation at my hands.

Before concluding, I cannot refrain from speaking again of the work done by this library, hampered as it is by unpopular location and the utter unsuitableness of the building for library purposes.

Permit me to express my thanks to the members of the Board for their kindly consideration nad hearty support in all matters affecting the library.

Respectfully submitted,

PURD B. WRIGHT,
Librarian.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1899.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
County of Buchanan. } ss.

Before me, Edward S. Douglas, a notary public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Purd B. Wright, librarian of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., and made oath that the facts and figures herein relating to receipts and expenditures, contents of library and books added, are correct to the best of his knoledge and belief.

EDWARD S. DOUGLAS,
Notary Public.

Given under my hand and seal this 5th day of May, A. D., 1899. Commission expires Nov. 16, 1900.

(1)—FINANCIAL.

Department Expenditures.

Salaries library employes	$3,815 36	
Books	1,399 64	
Periodicals	378 22	
Binding	596 21	
Rent	269 75	
Heat	122 67	
Janitor	240 00	
Printing and stationery	171 35	
Postage	21 00	
Furniture	35 50	
Repairs	15 60	
Insurance	75 00	
Miscellaneous	122 80	$7,261 10

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS.

RECEIPTS.

Brought forward	$ 7 39	
Received from fines	361 15	
Catalogues and supplements	59 60	
Miscellaneous sources	72 83	$ 500 97

DISBURSEMENTS.

Deposited with Treasurer	$ 315 00	
*Incidental expenses	183 48	
Forward	2 49	$ 500 97

*The incidental expense account includes all postage of the library other than printed postal cards, freight, cartage and express on books, delivery station expenses, the purchase of ink, pens, pencils and like small supplies.

(2)—ACCESSIONS.

Number volumes reported April 30, 1898		14,859	
Books reported missing found		31	
Not classified and not heretofore reported		918	15,808
Accessions April 30, 1898-April 30, 1899:			
Purchased	1,314		
Periodicals bound	236		
Donations classified	97		
Government deposits	160	1,807	

Less withdrawals:			
Worn out	344		
Burned (contagion)	4		
Lost and paid for	4		
Missing	7	359	
Net increase for the year			1,448
Total volumes in library not counting seven missing volumes, but likely to be located			17,256

ACCESSIONS AND WITHDRAWALS CLASSIFIED YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1899.

	Accessions.	Withdr'l's.	Net G'ns.
General	7	....	7
Philosophy	13	....	13
Religion	30	....	30
Sociology	68	....	68
Philology	4	....	4
Natural Science	46	....	46
Useful Arts	43	....	43
Fine Arts	15	1	14
Literature	92	4	88
Travel	76	1	75
Biography	98	....	98
History	122	3	119
Bound Periodicals, reference	265	2	263
Bound Periodicals, circulating	14	1	13
Other reference volumes	69	....	69
Fiction	618	338	280
Government deposits	160	....	160
Total	1,807	352	1,455

(3)—CLASSIFIED TABLE OF CIRCULATION.

	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Total	Per Cent
General	6	11	11	9	12	24	24	48	57	54	47	46	349	
Philosophy	38	24	31	37	44	31	35	45	31	50	78	61	505	
Religion	53	48	38	50	63	60	57	61	71	68	57	39	665	
Sociology	41	42	33	38	39	33	46	57	70	68	70	62	599	
Philology	8	10	6	4	6	1	1	4	6	5	9	8	68	04.40
Natural Science	72	61	51	86	73	54	62	88	126	128	123	103	1027	
Useful Arts	30	51	30	45	52	33	51	51	58	67	46	56	570	
Fine Arts	38	54	92	82	68	41	50	66	68	66	94	66	785	
Literature	279	253	264	272	282	282	333	399	446	410	426	357	4004	03.84
Travel	152	159	173	160	179	134	139	237	263	287	290	260	2433	02.33
Biography	151	136	106	97	110	130	131	183	212	216	221	156	1849	01.77
History	220	221	214	206	236	213	233	299	326	307	326	246	3047	02.92
Periodicals, current	357	356	376	384	415	254	327	380	394	330	436	370	4379	04.20
German	257	264	271	276	270	210	159	235	294	244	246	167	2893	02.78
Fiction	6561	7213	7683	7683	7006	4355	4480	6402	7242	7079	7945	7323	80973	77.76
Total	8263	8903	9379	3429	8855	5856	6128	8555	9664	9379	10415	9320	104146	100.00
Ref. use from circulating department	99	87	75	69	38	195	210	117	174	118	201	188	1571	.....
Total use	8362	8990	9454	9498	8893	6051	6338	8672	9838	9497	10616	9508	105717	.....
Days Open	24	26	25	26	25	19	20	26	25	24	24	25	289	.....
Average Daily Issue	348	346	378	365	356	320	316	333	393	395	442	380	360	.....

(4)—DONATIONS.

Vols.	Nos.	Pamp.	NAME
21	...	...	American Book Co., Chicago.
...	...	1	American-Irish Historical Society, Washington, D. C.
...	...	16	Aguilar Free Library, N. Y.
1	...	...	Bell, M. F., Adjutant-General of Missouri.
...	3	...	Boston Book Co., Boston, Mass.
10	...	...	Brockett, J. W., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	12	...	Browne, Mrs. E. C., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	1	Brooklyn (N. Y.) Free Library.
...	...	3	Buffalo (N. Y.) Public Library.
...	...	2	Canada—Minister of Agriculture.
...	...	1	Carnegie Library, Pittsburg, Pa.
...	...	1	Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library.
...	...	1	Chicago (Ill.) Public Library.
1	...	...	Clarke, H. M., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	1	Cleveland (O.) Public Schools.
...	...	3	Denver (Colo.) City Library.
...	...	1	Depew. Chauncey M., New York.
...	...	1	Detroit (Mich.) Public Library.
1	...	...	Dexter, Mary, Cincinnati, O.
...	...	1	Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.
...	...	1	Evanston (Ill.) Free Public Library.
1	...	...	Finley, W. W., Southern Railway Co., Washington, D. C.
...	...	1	Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.
1	...	...	Girard College, Philadelphia, Pa.
...	...	1	Gloversville (N. Y.) Public Library.
1	...	...	Hanna, H. H., chairman executive committee, Indianapolis Monetary Conference, 1898.
...	...	1	Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library.
...	...	8	Hartford (Conn.) Public Library.
...	...	2	Hartford (Conn.) Theological Seminary.
...	...	2	Helena (Mont.) Public Library.
...	...	11	Jersey City (N. J.) Free Public Library.
4	...	...	Joseph Lodge, No. 72, I. O. B. B., St. Joseph, Mo.
3	...	...	Kane, M. M., Chief Fire Department and Deputy State Factory Inspector.
1	...	...	Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library.
1	...	...	Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kan.
...	...	1	Kirksville (Mo.) State Normal School.
...	...	3	Lawrence (Kan.) Public Library.
1	...	...	Libbey Glass Co., Toledo, O.
...	...	1	Leipziger, Henry M., Ph. D., New York.
...	...	3	Library Company of Philadelphia, Pa.
...	...	1	Managers Missouri State Insane Asylum No. 1, Fulton, Mo.
...	...	1	Managers State Reform School for Boys, Booneville, Mo.
115	...	...	Martin, Miss Eudora, St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	1	McCormick Reaper Co.
...	...	1	Mercantile Library, New York.
...	...	1	Mercantile Library, Philadelphia, Pa.
...	...	3	Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library.
1	...	...	Missouri State Auditor.
...	...	8	Missouri State Board of Agriculture, Jefferson City, Mo.
3	...	...	Morton, Dr. Daniel, St. Joseph, Mo.
1	...	...	Muir, Henry D., Chicago, Ill.
...	...	10	Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library.
...	...	11	New Haven (Conn.) Free Public Library.
...	...	2	Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.
...	...	12	New York Public Library.
...	...	6	Omaha (Neb.) Free Public Library.
1	...	...	Palmer, Mrs. C. F. New York.
...	...	7	Park College, Parkville, Mo.
...	...	1	Paterson (N. J.) Free Public Library.
...	...	1	Peabody Institute, Danvers, Mass.
...	...	3	Peoria (Ill.) Public Library.
...	...	1	Pratt Institute Free Public Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.
...	...	12	Providence (R. I.) Public Library.
...	...	2	Salem (Mass.) Free Public Library.
...	...	4	Scranton (Pa.) Public Library.
...	...	1	Sedalia (Mo.) Public Library.
1	...	...	Simms, J. D.
...	...	1	Society of Friends, Philadelphia, Pa.
...	...	7	Society of Springfield(Mass.) City Library Association.
...	...	1	Stiles, L. O., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	1	Syracuse (N. Y.) Central Library.
...	...	1	Toronto Public Library.
...	...	1	Towle Manufacturing Co., Newburyport, Mass.
...	...	1	Tufts Library, Weymouth, Mass.
160	52	232	United States—Departments.
...	...	2	Warren County (Ill.) Library and Reading Room Association
...	...	2	Wisconsin Free Library Commission.
...	...	1	Worcester (Mass.) Free Public Library.

(5)—NEW MISSOURI LIBRARY LAW.

The difficulty of securing a sufficient number of votes to establish Free Public Libraries in the state of Missouri, on account of the law requiring a majority of all votes cast on any proposition at an election, caused the following amendments to be written and submitted to the legislature. It will be seen that under this law it will be necessary to secure a majority of the voters voting on the library measure, either to establish a library or increase the amount of taxes allowed a library already established. Also that it permits counties to secure the use of such libraries by contract between the county courts and the library boards. The bill was passed, signed by the governor and is now a law, an emergency clause being attached:

AN ACT repealing Section 1779, of Chapter 31, of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, 1889, enacting a new section in lieu thereof, and also enacting a new section to be known as section 1789A, in relation to free public libraries and the use thereof.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section 1: That section 1779, of Chapter 31, of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, 1889, be and the same is hereby repealed and the following section enacted in lieu thereof:

"Sec. 1779. When one hundred tax-paying voters of any incorporated city shall petition the mayor and common council asking that an annual tax be levied for the establishment and maintenance of a free public library in such incorporated city, and shall specify in their petition a rate of taxation, not to exceed one mill on the dollar annually, and in cities of over one hundred thousand inhabitants not to exceed two-fifths of one mill annually, on all the taxable property in the city, such mayor and common council shall direct the proper officer to give notice in his next legal notice of the annual election, or special election which may be called for the purpose of voting on such question, that at such election every voter may vote "for a —— mill tax for a free public library;" or "against a — mill tax for a free public library;" specifying in such notice the rate of taxation mentioned in said petition; and if the majority of votes cast on such proposition shall be "for the tax for the free public library," the tax specified in such notice shall be levied and collected in like manner with other general taxes of such incorporated city, and shall be known as the "library fund": Provided, that such tax shall cease in case the legal voters of any such incorporated city shall so determine, by a majority vote, at any annual election held therein."

Section 2. That a new section, to be known as Section 1789A, is hereby enacted, as follows:

"Section 1789A. The County Court in any County wherein is situated an incorporated city containing a free public library, whenever petitioned by one hundred or more tax-paying citizens of said city, and one hundred or more tax-paying citizens of said county residing outside of said city, for the use by the citizens of said county residing outside of said city, of said library, shall have the right to contract with the officers of said library for such use thereof by said citizens of said county residing outside of the city, and to appropriate moneys from the county revenue of said county therefor; and thereafter to continue such contract or renewals thereof from year to year:

Provided, that the annual amount so contracted to be paid and appropriated shall not exceed 3 per cent of the county revenue for the year out of which payment is to be made."

Section 3. The fact that there are cities contemplating voting on the establishment of free public libraries, and that certain counties desire to secure the right to use libraries in cities, from which they are now barred, constitutes an emergency within the meaning of the constitution; therefore, this bill shall become a law from and after its passage.

REPORT OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

Gentlemen: During the year just closed 1897 volumes have been added to the library, as follows: 1314 purchased, 97 donated, 236 periodicals bound, and 160 deposited by government. Withdrawals, 352; 344 worn out, 4 burned on account of contagion, 4 lost and paid for. Net increase, including 7 missing volumes, 1455. The library contains 17,256 volumes.

The inability of the library to meet the increasing needs of its patrons is more keenly felt each year. The only remedy is an increase in library funds, not hoped for during the coming year. The entire amount at the disposal of the board for new books could be used to advantage for some years in the expenditures for books and periodicals for the reference room alone, so large is the use of this department.

In many places persons interested in special lines of study or work frequently endow the departments appealing to them, thus permitting their more rapid extension. This has not as yet been done in St. Joseph, but the attention of thinking people is called to the plan in the hopes that it may receive consideration.

The committee feels that its work has been as well done as the means at its hands has permitted. Due care has been exercised in the purchases made, and all additions have been approved.

Respectfully submitted,
H. K. WHITE,
J. L. LAWLESS,
J. A. McEVOY,
Library Committee.

May 1, 1899.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

Gentlemen: The reports of the Treasurer of the Board and the Librarian have been examined and found to be correct, setting forth in detail the receipts and expenditures for the year.

At the first of the year the committee endeavored to secure from the finance committee of the council an appropriation covering the balance due the library accruing during two years, but was not successful, the library being placed on the same basis as other departments, and compelled to stand its proportion of the amount not collected according to the apportionment, to-

gether with amount borrowed by council. These amounts are still carried as a charge against the city on the books of the Board Treasurer, in the hope that when the city finances assume a better condition they will be allowed to the library.

The apportionment for library purposes for the year just begun has been made by the finance committee, and amounts to $7,200, the amount allowed last year. An increase was not asked for by your committee, so many demands being made on the city by the various departments that it was deemed inadvisable.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,
LEWIS M. SMITH,
C. P. CARGILL,
Finance Committee.

May 1, 1899.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

Gentlemen: An examination shows the general condition of the library to be as good as circumstances will permit.

The placing of "warning labels," containing excerpts from the city ordinance passed for the protection of the library, on the volumes in the reference room, seems to have had a good effect, the librarian reporting fewer losses during the year than for any like period during the history of the library. The crowded condition of the reference room made it necessary to remove some of the least used periodicals to the office room, immediately adjoining the reference room.

The library force has continued unchanged during the year, the work of each member of the staff being satisfactory.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. DeCLUE,
JNO M. STEWART,
L. M. SMITH,
Administration Committee.

May 1, 1899.

REPORT OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

Gentlemen: Your committee herewith submits a report of the expenditures in the department under its charge during the year ending April 30, 1899, as required by the by-laws:

Rent	$269 75	
Janitor	240 00	
Insurance	75 00	
Fuel	122 67	
Furniture	33 50	
Repairs	15 60	
Water	30 00	
Ice	6 40	$792 92

The books and furniture of the library are now insured for $10,000, an increase of $1,000 during the year. Through the efforts of the librarian, the rate was reduced, effecting a net saving of fifteen dollars and the additional insurance for the year.

The fuel account shows an increased expenditure of $19.43 on account of the severe winter.

Arrangements have been made with the Board of Park Commissioners and Superintendent Rau, of the city parks, for plants for the grounds for this year, as heretofore.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. LAWLESS,
J. B. RILEY,
CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,
Buildings and Grounds Committee.

May 1, 1899.

THE JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

SAINT JOSEPH, MISSOURI

Year Ending April 30, 1900

Tenth Annual Report

of the

Board of Directors

of the

Free Public Library

of the

City of St. Joseph, Mo.

Fiscal Year Ending
April 30, 1900.

5 ~

PROPOSED FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY,
ST. JOSEPH, MO.

OFFICERS.

President .....J. W. Atwill
Vice-President .... John M. Stewart
Secretary and Treasurer .....Charles A. Pfeiffer

DIRECTORS.

Term Expiring 1900.	Term Expiring 1901.	Term Expiring 1902.
J. W. Atwill.	Dr. J. B. Riley.	H. K. White.
L. M. Smith,	John M. Stewart,	Charles A. Pfeiffer,
James A. McEvoy.	Charles P. Cargill.	James H. McCord.

COMMITTEES.

LIBRARY—White, Atwill, McEvoy.
ADMINISTRATION—Stewart, Smith, Cargill.
BUILDING AND GROUNDS—Riley, Pfeiffer, McCord.
FINANCE—Pfeiffer, Smith, Cargill.
BY-LAWS—McEvoy, White, Stewart.

LIBRARY EMPLOYES.

Purd B. Wright, Librarian.

Lulu C. Senter, Assistant Librarian.

General Assistants—Annie M. Perry, Cornelia L. Rathbun, Eudora Martin, Miranda Olds.

Messenger—Roy Whitmore.

Janitor—F. G. Burgderfer.

JOHN DECLUE,

A member of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph since 1891, and President since 1896, departed this life on the 23d day of October, 1899.

The surviving members adopt this minute for preservation upon the records of the Board.

We recognize his faithful services while one of our number; he was punctual and regular in his attendance upon meetings of the Board; he was painstaking in ascertaining the needs of the library, and wise in his counsels. Clearness of his own convictions did not prevent him from being patient during discussions when differing views were presented and argued. As presiding officer, he was courteous and just in all of his rulings.

He was an earnest believer in the library, and was glad to plan for its enlargement and perpetuity, and he hoped much for its increasing value as an educational force in the community.

We have parted from him with sincere sorrow, knowing that we shall miss his presence from our councils; and we assure his family of our unfeigned sympathies.

Adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors, November 9, 1899.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of St. Joseph, Mo.

Gentlemen: In presenting this, the tenth, annual report of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, being for the year ending April 30, 1900, I cannot refrain from congratulating the people on their recognition of the urgent need of this institution for a permanent home, and expressing a feeling of gratification at the unanimity of opinion as shown at the polls on the proposition which carried $100,000 in bonds for a library building containing the offices of the school board. The fact that the building to be erected was made possible by the action of the school authorities in submitting the question to the people, when the library is in no way officially connected with the schools, is a great compliment to the library, and is taken to mean that the work of this institution on educational lines meets with recognition and approval, while the large vote cast for it in the midst of a hardly contested political campaign, but two days after another special election, indicates the high regard in which it is held by the people.

While everyone who has been connected with the library from its inception is entitled to his or her full share of the credit for the happy result, it is perhaps not invidious to say that to the energy and strong personal interest shown by the present librarian, Mr. Wright, are present conditions largely due. To his many hours of careful planning, anxious work and zealous efforts to interest the people, I bear cheerful witness.

Results obtained show an increase in the usefulness of the library, as will be seen by a perusal of the reports herewith presented.

The librarian calls attention to one fact in his report which is worthy of careful consideration, and that is the lack of means to place library work in St. Joseph at least on a par with other cities of similar size—to make it more fully meet the wants of an intelligent and discriminating public. In calling attention to the large yearly circulation of the volumes comprising this library, it is said to be not necessarily complimentary to St. Joseph, as it does not also mean a large use of books by our people, while it does indicate unmistakably too few books to meet the demand, and that these few are kept in too active use. This is only to be remedied by asking for and securing a larger proportion of taxes paid into the general administration fund of the city. The field the library is attempting to occupy grows more rapidly than does the library, and this institution, instead of leading, as it should, is at times forced to its utmost in the endeavor to keep up.

I believe that many books now practically useless in the hands of many people in St. Joseph, through having been read and laid aside, or outgrown, or for other reasons are not used, would be of great assistance to the public through being given to the library, and think some effort should be made to make this fact generally known.

All over the country libraries are being recognized almost daily as most worthy means through which to benefit the masses through endowments and bequests to be expended in their behalf, and it is to be hoped that the St. Joseph library will not be among the last to be used in furtherance of such a worthy purpose. To some of our citizens of means it should appear a pleasure to aid in the work of education and general progress attempted through the local library.

In the death of President John DeClue, last fall, the Board of Directors of this library lost a most active and interested member, wise counselor, and just presiding officer. The resolutions adopted at the meeting following his death accompany these reports as a small tribute to his long service and known interest in the library's work.

With the new building, situated more centrally, there will unquestionably be an increase in the demands made upon the public library, and with this in view we ask that any efforts which may be made in the future looking to an increase in the amount to be set aside for library use, be accorded your hearty and undivided support.

The reports which follow give in detail all the operations of the library, including its use, cost of operating, and some earnest recommendations. Their careful perusal is respectfully requested. Very truly,

J. W. ATWILL,
President Board of Directors, Public Library.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1900.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Gentlemen: Herewith is submitted a detailed report of the financial transactions of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library during the fiscal year ending April 16th, 1900, embracing all receipts and expenditures from the 17th of April, 1899, to the 16th of April, 1900:

DETAILS OF STATEMENT BY TREASURER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—SCHEDULE A.

The amount of money in the hands of the City Treasurer, collected and available for library purposes at the close of the fiscal year being insufficient to meet the April expenditures of the Library Board, it was decided by the Library Directors in session to take from its Special Revenue Fund the amount necessary to cover the deficiency, and pay same over to the City Treasurer. This was done April 15th, 1899,

The amount being	$ 154 69	
The City Treasurer then paid outstanding vouchers dated April 13th, 1899, in favor of		
A. C. McClurg & Co., for books		$ 69 82
Chas. Scribner & Sons, for books		3 32
William Schroeder. for books		2 40
W. B. McNutt, for binding		41 55
Hyatt Coal Co., for coal		21 15
Library Bureau, for supplies		16 45
	$ 154 69	$ 154 69

EXPLANATION OF COMPTROLLER'S MONTHLY STATEMENT OF MAY 31, 1899.—SCHEDULE B.

Contains an unexpended appropriation from expired fiscal year of $55.00, in hands of City Treasurer, belonging to the Free Public Library, and noted as "Transfers added" in Comptroller's statement of May 31, 1899	$ 55 00	
This sum was absorbed by outstanding vouchers in favor of		
April 13, 1899. Due Burnes estate for rent		$ 50 00
Due Granville Adkins for books....		2 00
Due Lon Hardman for printing....		3 00
	$ 55 00	$ 55 00

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TREASURER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE STATEMENT SHOWN BY CITY COMPTROLLER ON MAY 31, 1899.—SCHEDULE C.

Comptroller shows amount apportioned for Library purposes, $7,200.00, and of this sum collected		$ 4,250 12
The above sum represents two items, viz.:		
A check dated April 15th, 1899, in favor of Rice D. Gilkey, City Treasurer, upon the National Bank of St. Joseph, issued by the Treasurer of the Free Public Library	$ 154 69	
And collections from taxes	4,095 43	
	$ 4,250 12	$ 4,250 12

GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT.—RECEIPTS.—SCHEDULE D.

Receipts from tax collections, upon an apportionment made by the Common Council of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., of $7,200.00, and placed to the credit of the Free Public Library as collected:

1899	May 31, In hands of City Treasurer, see Schedule A	$ 154 69
	May 31, Collections	4,095 43
	June	371 30
	July	317 44
	August	550 80
	September	376 56
	October	373 75
	November	410 49
	December	162 79
1900	January	222 91
	February	200 45
	March and April	118 17
	April 4th, deposited with City Treasurer amount received from Treasurer Free Public Library	475 00
		$ 7,829 69

GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT.—DISBURSEMENTS.—SCHEDULE E.

Expenditures embracing salaries, rent, fuel, water and coal, the purchase of books, periodicals and magazines, cost of binding and for sundry supplies needed, all accounted for in detail on separate vouchers, endorsed by the Finance Committee of the Free Public Library, approved by its President, and on file with the Auditor of the City of St. Joseph, Mo.

	Unpaid April vouchers, see Schedule A	$ 154 69
1899	May vouchers	599 99
	June vouchers	611 26
	July vouchers	624 09
	August vouchers	709 87
	September vouchers	562 41
	October vouchers	613 36
	November vouchers	740 87
	December vouchers	593 37
1900	January vouchers	601 22
	February vouchers	673 56
	March vouchers	641 28
	April vouchers	703 68
		$ 7,829 65

RECAPITULATION.

GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT.—SCHEDULE F.

April 12, 1900.	Last year's balance to cover vouchers as per Schedule A	$ 154 69	
	Received from Tax Collections, as per Schedule D	7,200 00	
	Deposited with City Treasurer check on Special Revenue Acct.	475 00	
	Paid outstanding vouchers from last fiscal year, as per Schedule		$ 154 69
	Paid vouchers as per Schedule		7,674 96
	Balance in City Treasury to the credit of the Free Public Library		04
		$ 7,829 69	$ 7,829 69

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT.—SCHEDULE G.

Amount turned over to Treasurer Chas. A. Pfeiffer by Purd B. Wright, Librarian, from receipts accruing to Special Revenue Account.

1899	May	11.	Received from Librarian.....$	15 00	
	June	8.	Received from Librarian.....	25 00	
	July	15.	Received from Librarian.....	32 00	
	Aug.	14.	Received from Librarian.....	25 00	
	Sept.	14.	Received from Librarian.....	35 00	
	Oct.	12.	Received from Librarian.....	25 00	
	Nov.	9.	Received from Librarian.....	33 00	
	Dec.	14.	Received from Librarian.....	30 00	
1900	Jan.	11.	Received from Librarian.....	25 00	
	Feb.	8.	Received from Librarian.....	30 00	
	Mar.	8.	Received from Librarian.....	30 00	
	Apl.	12.	Received from Librarian.....	38 00	
					$ 343 00

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT.—SCHEDULE H.

1899.				
May 1.	Amount on hand, deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph			$ 185 31
May 1.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.$	15 00		
May 9.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	25 00		
July 18.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	32 00		
Aug. 14.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	25 00		
Sept. 15.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	35 00		
Oct. 17.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	25 00		
Nov. 13.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	33 00		
Dec. 15.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	30 00		
1900.				
Jan. 12.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	25 00		
Feb. 9.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	30 00		
Mar. 9.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	30 00		
Apl. 12.	Deposited in National Bank of St. Joseph.	38 00	$ 343 00	
			$ 528 31	
Apl. 4, 1900, gave check on National Bank of St. Joseph for City Treasurer			475 00	
Balance on hand in National Bank of St. Joseph			$ 53 31	

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS—SCHEDULE I.

The revenue herein accounted for is collected by the Librarian and his assistants, and reported to the Board of Directors by the Librarian at each monthly meeting:

Received from	Fines	Supplements	Catalogues	Miscel.	Dup. Books
1899					
May	$25.72		$*2.65	$ 5.70	
June	33.92		*2.55	7.06	
July	37.70	$ 1.35	3.75	6.18	
August	25.22	1.80	4.50	8.13	
September	38.72	1.00	3.15	10.63	
October	28.56	1.00	1.65	10.17	
November	30.00	1.45	3.30	12.40	
December	39.56	1.55	3.75	9.14	
1900					
January	36.64	1.15	2.70	2.35	
February	26.21	2.00	5.70	7.91	$ 4.30
March	33.08	1.85	4.35	4.39	5.90
April	33.65	1.15	4.80	14.20	8.90
	$388.89	$14.30	$42.85	$98.26	$19.10

* Catalogues and supplements.

RECAPITULATION.

From Fines	$388.89
From Supplements	14.30
From Catalogues	42.85
From Miscellaneous	98.26
Duplicate Books	19.10
	$563.40

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT—DISBURSEMENTS—SCHEDULE J.

Disbursements by Librarian from Special Revenue Fund and reported to the Board of Directors by him at each monthly meeting:

1899.				
May	11.	Incidental Expenses	$ 17.59	
June	8.	Incidental Expenses	16.56	
July	15.	Incidental Expenses	16.45	
Aug.	10.	Incidental Expenses	15.71	
Sept.	14.	Incidental Expenses	13.31	
Oct.	12.	Incidental Expenses	17.12	
Nov.	12.	Incidental Expenses	14.96	
Dec.	14.	Incidental Expenses	21.16	
1900.				
Jan.	11.	Incidental Expenses	21.47	
Feb.	8.	Incidental Expenses	16.10	
Mar.	8.	Incidental Expenses	17.23	
Apr.	12.	Incidental Expenses	24.86	
				$ 212.52

RECAPITULATION—SCHEDULE K.
SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT.

May 1, 1899.	Balance on hand with Librarian	$ 2.49	
	Receipts as per Schedule I	563.40	
	Incidental Expenses, as per Schedule J		$ 212.52
	Deposited with Treasurer Chas. A. Pfeiffer		343.00
	Balance on hand with Librarian		10.37
		$ 565.89	$ 565.89

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,
Treasurer.

State of Missouri, }
County of Buchanan, } ss.

Before me, J. C. Hedenberg, a Notary Public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Charles A. Pfeiffer, Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., and made oath that the facts and figures above set forth are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal this 8th day of May, 1900.

(Seal.) J. C. HEDENBERG,
Notary Public.

My commission expires November 13th, 1901.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Gentlemen: As required by your by-laws, I herewith present the annual report of the Librarian, covering the work of the Free Public Library for the tenth year of its existence, closing April 30, 1900. It is the fourth report which I have presented.

In a general way, the work has been satisfactory. It is believed that the results obtained will compare not unfavorably with other libraries laboring under similar restrictions. A great deal has been attempted in various directions, and this report will endeavor to show, briefly, what has been accomplished.

CONTENTS OF LIBRARY.—CIRCULATION.

The library contains 18,382 volumes, representing a growth for the year of 1,124. Number of volumes issued for home use, 109,-939, as against 104,146 the previous year, being an increase of 5,739. In the number of volumes issued from the circulating department for use in the library, an increase of 31.1 per cent is noted. The growth in circulation was not unexpected, as during the previous year the library was closed two weeks on account of the epidemic of diphtheria. It has developed that that closing resulted in a harm which it will take time to correct. The order closing the library called the attention of many people to the fact that the board of health thought there was danger in circulating books during even a mild form of epidemic, and now at every report of several cases of a contagious disease in any portion of the city, a marked falling off in the use of the library from that neighborhood is at once noted. The library has just experienced such a scare, more general in nature than usual, several cases of smallpox having been reported, and as a result the circulation for the month of April showed a decided falling off. It is the first month since September failing to show an increase when compared with the corresponding period of the year previous. The library force explains the plan of receiving daily reports from the health department, and the handling of suspected books, but it seems to have little effect.

The apparent increase in the percentage of fiction, while small, will be understood when it is known that heretofore the total circulation of books in the German language, on account of not being classified, have been entered under the separate heading, "German books." This circulation is now, as has been heretofore, almost entirely from the fiction department. This year the record of the circulation of these books is included in the regular classes.

CARD HOLDERS.

The number of actual card holders is 4,611, an increase of 327 for the year. This increase may be reasonably acounted for by extra efforts through the schools, and the extension of the city limits.

SCHOOL WORK.

Work with the schools has progressed favorably, and better results have been obtained than heretofore. The lack of a sufficient number of books to place special collections in the different schools, or to permit the teachers to have books for school use on special cards, necessitated other means being tried. The experiment of last year, that of preparing (with the aid of committees of teachers) a graded list of books, was extended, to include books suitable for pupils in grades four to eight. The expense of printing this list, purchasing the machine slugs for future use, and placing a copy thereof in the hands of each pupil in the grades designated, with other copies for special use, was borne by the school board. This is notable as the first contribution from this source to library work in St. Joseph. Results were highly pleasing, the increase in the number of patrons being largely from the schools, while the use of books in the history classes increased 44.77 per cent, with proportionate gains in the use of books in literature, travel, natural science, etc. The offer of a number of prizes by myself, with the full approval of the school authorities, was possibly partly responsible for this showing. Final results will not be known for some weeks.

BULLETIN LISTS.

The usual number of bulletins, compiled from newspaper machine slugs (after publication in the St. Joseph Daily Herald and St. Joseph Daily Gazette), have been issued, and a second supplement to the finding list will be ready within a few weeks. The lists of most importance issued during the year comprised one on South Africa, first having been published in all the daily newspapers of the city, and a special list of books for business men, compiled originally for the economic league, and published in the St. Joseph Daily News. The slugs were in each instance loaned to the library without charge.

REVISION OF CARD CATALOGUE.

The most important strictly library work is that now nearing completion on the card catalogue. No attempt was made to keep track of the actual number of cards written in making it a complete author, title and class catalogue of the contents of the library, but the fact that 3,453 guide cards and 21,000 regular cards were used (which takes no account of many cards corrected and old cards written on reverse side), some idea of its magnitude may be had. This work has

been under the direct supervision of Miss Lulu C. Senter, assistant librarian, and to her energy may be attributed the large amount of work done. The cards were written on the machine by Misses Olds and Martin. Of course it is understood that this work was in connection with regular library duties, none of which were neglected.

REFERENCE ROOM.

The volumes in the reference room have been catalogued, and a new shelf list is nearly completed. This room is still absolutely open to the public, without the slightest safeguard or surveillance, and this fact has again been taken advantage of by dishonest persons, who have stolen five volumes. Those missing are Electrical Dictionary, Italian-English Dictionary, Laws of Mines and Mining, Dictionary of United States History, and Handbook of European History. The steady increase in the use of this department is noted, both by pupils in the schools and the general public.

SPECIAL DUPLICATES.

The inability of the library to supply a sufficient number of copies of late popular books led to a trial of the plan inaugurated in the St. Louis Public Library by Mr. F. M. Crunden a number of years ago, and still in successful operation, that of purchasing extra copies which are issued only on the payment of a small sum. An extra card was devised, and these are sold to regular patrons at ten cents each, upon which one book from the special duplicate collection may be secured and retained two weeks, thus leaving the regular card free for any purpose wished. The first purchase embraced copies of "David Harum" (Westcott), "Richard Carvel" (Churchill), "Janice Merideth" (Ford), "When Knighthood was in Flower" (Major), followed later by "In Connection with the DeWilloughby Claim" (Burnett), "To Have and to Hold" (Johnston), "Red Pottage" (Cholmondeley), "Gentleman from Indiana" (Tarkington), and one or two others, at a total cost of $42.06, with a return of $24.30, the books still in active demand and in good condition. The experiment has been very successful, and will be extended as occasion warrants. It is destined to bring relief to the fiction department, and at little or no expense to the library. It has met with the hearty approval of library patrons, except that a sufficient number of copies have in no instance been supplied to meet the demand.

DELIVERY STATIONS.

There is steady growth in the use of the delivery stations and a constant call for more of them. The increase in number of volumes issued through these was 1,227, or 22 per cent. Station No. 1, located in North St. Joseph, has been removed to a more populous neighborhood, while still serving the same section. It is now located in the store of John Moeck, 1828 St. Joseph avenue. Mr. Moeck takes a warm personal interest in library work. Stations 2 (Wyatt Park) and 3 (South Park) are unchanged, being

still in charge of Mr. Koch and Dr. Feltenstein, respectively. These gentlemen have conducted these stations without charge for nearly three years, and continue as active in the good work as ever. Station 4, recently established in the store of Mr. J. J. Field, 2615 Frederick avenue, is becoming popular, and supplies the wants of an extensive territory. Station 5, just established in the stock yards district, promises to become the most extensively used station operated by the library. An interesting experiment is being watched in connection with this station, being the establishment of a reading room. The station and reading room is operated at the expense of the members of Gooding Chapel, of which Rev. Charles F. Wimberly is pastor, assisted by the business men of that section. The idea is Rev. Wimberly's, and to his progressiveness the success so far attained is due. The reading rooms are very pleasantly arranged, and are open Tuesday and Friday mornings for the receipt of books to be forwarded to the library, and each afternoon and evening from 2 to 10 o'clock. The library is doing all it can to make the station and reading room attractive, having placed a number of periodicals at the disposal of those conducting it, and loaned a carefully selected lot of books, 50 volumes. These are to be changed from time to time, and the number increased as the demand warrants. Rev. Wimberly is satisfied with the results so far, and expresses the hope that the library will soon be in position to establish a regular branch library there, his congregation standing ready to erect an additional room, which will be provided free when the library is in condition to furnish books and a trained attendant. That section of the city is growing rapidly, and this is a question which will needs be met.

COUNTY USE OF LIBRARY.

As to some outside work attempted, the effort to extend the use of the library to the entire county, for a small consideration, under the provisions of the law heretofore mentioned, was progressing favorably, when plans for securing a new building developed, and this interfered with further progress. A sufficient number of signatures to the petition to meet the requirements of the law have been secured, but it was deemed advisable to secure more than was required by law, and it has not been presented to the county court. It is hoped to have this matter definitely settled before September, so that if a contract is made with the court, time may be had for developing plans to start the work before schools in the country districts open.

BINDERY EXPENSE.

Books and periodicals sent to the bindery for binding and rebinding numbered 1,344, and the aggregate cost was $673.26. This includes a number of volumes which were bound in a style which increased the cost, on account of the value and the large use of the volumes. The bindery bill for the ensuing year is expected to show a further increase, as the number of class books requiring attention grows larger each year. The time is looked forward to when the library will be prepared to operate its own bindery.

A WORD IN GENERAL.

The St. Joseph library is possibly among the smallest in point of volumes owned in a city of the size of St. Joseph in the country, and the money at its command accounts for this fact—not being sufficient to permit of its more rapid growth. The large circulation of its few books entails a heavy expense in rebinding and replacing worn-out volumes. This will necessarily continue in an increasing ratio until a larger number of volumes are secured. With the new building, arranged on modern lines, with an eye to economy of administration, it will be possible to handle a much larger circulation than at present without a proportionate increase in the number of employes; but in order to obtain the highest results it will be necessary to have more books.

The library has had an extensive use since its opening early in 1891, the volumes in the circulating department being in especial demand, the average issue being over eight times a year. This does not indicate anything further than a most active circulation of a comparatively few books, and rare patience on the part of its patrons.

During the last four years nearly 3,000 volumes have been withdrawn, mostly worn out, being 21 per cent of the number at present in the circulating department; for the year just closed withdrawals were 7 per cent.

A lack of means prevents the development of the work of the library in any direction to its fullest extent. While it has done, and is doing, much with the money used, it can hardly be said to more than touch upon the opportunities open to it. In no way has it been possible to occupy any field completely without neglecting some other work, possibly as important. In school work better results have been obtained than in any other direction, because special efforts have been made to this end. Even here real workers are not satisfied, and cannot be, for they see what great results are obtained with so little effort and the use of a comparatively small amount of money. Outside of work on educational lines, practically all effort to increase circulation (merely as circulation) have been abandoned, it being deemed unwise and a waste of time to urge the use of the library by general readers when it is all but impossible to meet their wants.

St. Joseph presents a wide field for library work, in that there are no educational institutions in the city outside the public schools and schools of like nature (parochial, Christian Brothers' College, Sacred Heart Convent), and every effort should be made to fill it.

Conservative estimates of the population of the city place it at from 75,000 to 85,000 inhabitants. The present library revenue, therefore, indicates a cost for conducting it of less than 10 cents per inhabitant. The new library law, the evident interest of the people in the library, point to the only solution of the problem.

In closing, I wish to again express my thanks to the members of the board for their kindly consideration at all times, and to acknowledge the great help of those connected with me in all library work.

Following will be found (1) the financial statement of the librarian, (2) accessions, (3) circulation statistics, (4) list of donors, (5) list of bound magazines in reference room, and, after the committee reports, a brief sketch of the work of the library during its ten years' existence, with a list of library publications, etc. Respectfully submitted,

PURD B. WRIGHT, Librarian.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1900.

State of Missouri, }
County of Buchanan, } ss.

Before me, Edward S. Douglas, a notary public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Purd B. Wright, librarian of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., and made oath that the facts and figures herein relating to receipts and expenditures, contents of library, books added and withdrawn, are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

EDWARD S. DOUGLAS,
(Seal.) Notary Public.

Given under my hand and seal this 9th day of May, 1900. Commission expires Nov. 16, 1900.

(1)—FINANCIAL.

DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES.

Salaries library employes	$ 3,949 00	
Books	1,421 40	
Periodicals	343 62	
Binding	673 26	
Rent	450 00	
Heat	144 47	
Janitor Service	229 00	
Printing and Stationery	85 70	
Postage	20 00	
Furniture	84 75	
Repairs	58 10	
Insurance	75 00	
Miscellaneous	144 66	
		$ 7,674 96

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS.
RECEIPTS.

Brought forward	$ 2 49	
Received from fines	388 89	
Catalogues and supplements	57 15	
Special books	19 10	
Miscellaneous sources	98 26	
		$ 565 89

DISBURSEMENTS.

Deposited with Treasurer	$ 343 00	
*Incidental expenses	212 52	
Forward	10 37	
		$ 565 89

*The incidental expense account includes all postage of the library other than printed postal cards, freight, cartage and express on books, delivery station expenses, the purchase of ink, pens, pencils and like small supplies.

(2)—ACCESSIONS.

Number volumes reported April 30, 1899.....		17,256	
Volumes reported missing, since found		2	17,258
Accessions year ending April 30, 1900:			
Purchased	1,429		
Periodicals bound	214		
Donations classified	135		
Deposited by government	269	2,047	
Less withdrawals:			
Worn out	887		
Lost and paid for	15		
Exchanged	7		
Missing	14	923	
Net increase for the year			1,124
Total volumes now in library			18,382

ACCESSIONS AND WITHDRAWALS CLASSIFIED FOR YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1900.

	Accessions.	Withdrawals.	Net Gain.
General	20	0	20
Philosophy	28	1	27
Theology	29	3	26
Sociology	64	0	64
Philology	6	0	6
Natural Science	68	2	66
Useful Arts	25	3	22
Fine Arts	29	3	26
Literature	53	17	36
Poetry and Drama	23	1	22
Travel	98	11	87
Biography	76	10	66
History	160	13	147
Bound Periodicals, reference	197	15	182
Other Reference Volumes	26	0	26
Fiction	876	826	50
Government Deposit	269	0	269
	2,047	905	1,142

(3)—CLASSIFIED TABLE OF CIRCULATION.

CLASS	May	June	July	Auguet	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Total	Per Cent
General	61	74	59	45	59	63	38	60	61	82	94	56	752	
Philosophy	54	49	45	40	59	51	35	39	54	33	59	53	571	
Religion	26	47	60	66	52	91	64	56	65	75	81	63	742	
Sociology	57	64	61	60	55	52	60	37	64	60	85	59	714	
Philology	7	6	3	3	6	5	6	7	6	3	5	6	63	04.82
Natural Science	75	74	67	96	53	79	111	88	103	109	133	90	1077	
Useful Arts	55	48	35	47	30	45	45	56	56	36	57	48	558	
Fine Arts	65	76	57	77	65	61	69	66	80	66	76	62	820	
Literature	372	297	297	276	238	356	406	427	504	353	455	353	4332	03.95
Travel	193	177	182	186	138	337	353	296	334	266	310	218	2983	02.71
Biography	130	76	105	98	73	160	253	197	224	189	209	187	1901	01.77
History	195	202	191	194	228	608	630	511	486	401	482	283	4399	04.05
Periodicals	334	290	305	275	283	329	322	289	340	303	341	316	3727	03.40
Fiction	6752	7125	7858	8185	6695	6571	6490	6426	7918	7517	8766	6970	87250	79 30
Total	8376	8605	9325	9648	8035	8808	8882	8555	10295	9493	11153	8764	109939	100.00
Use in Library from Ref. Department	271	200	36	86	91	185	224	220	259	189	204	105	2070	.....
Grand Total	8647	8805	9361	9734	8126	8993	9106	8775	10554	9682	11357	8869	112009	.....
No. Days Open	26	26	25	27	25	26	25	25	26	23	27	25	307	.....
Average Daily use Circulating Department	322	331	373	357	321	339	356	342	396	412	413	350	364	.....

REPORT OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Gentlemen: Additions to the library during the year aggregate 2,047, as follows: 1,429 purchased, 214 periodicals bound, 135 donations classified, and 269 deposited by the United States Government. Withdrawals were 923, of which 887 were worn out, 7 partial set withdrawn and replaced by complete set, 15 lost and paid for, 14 missing. The library now contains 18,382 volumes.

Continued care is exercised in the purchase of books for the use of the public. The constant endeavor is to make the growth of the different library departments as uniform as possible, while at the same time meeting the wants and real needs of its patrons.

This committee has done its utmost to improve the taste of the general reader by endeavoring to supply them with the best books published, within its means, while dropping from the library shelves volumes of less merit. Every effort is made to supply the student in any department with the volumes absolutely necessary for a correct understanding of the subject under his consideration. Especial attention has been paid to completing some important sets of periodicals indexed in Poole, with fairly satisfactory results, while other sets have been added. The most important of this latter class is the Magazine of American History, Chautauquan, Author (donated), Hours at Home (donated). The report of the librarian shows the magazines now in the reference room, the complete sets being indicated.

The hope is again expressed that, in consideration of the work it is attempting, the library will be considered worthy of endowment in some of its departments by citizens of St. Joseph.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. McEVOY,
J. W. ATWILL,
H. K. WHITE,
Library Committee.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1900.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Gentlemen: The report of the Treasurer of the Board and of the Librarian have been examined and found to be correct, setting forth in detail the receipts and expenditures for the year, together with all the financial transactions.

The apportionment of funds for library purposes for the year just begun has been made by the finance committee of the city council, and amounts to $7,500, an increase of $300 apportioned last year. This was the sum asked for, the many demands upon the city for money being the reason this committee did not attempt to secure a greater sum.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,
C. P. CARGILL,
LEWIS M. SMITH,
Finance Committee.

St. Joseph. Mo., May 1. 1900.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: An examination, made at the usual time. shows the general condition of the library to be as good as circumstances will permit. The rooms and shelves are over-crowded, but in view of the hope that the new building will be ready for occupancy within a year, little expense will be incured to remedy this condition at this time.

The year's statistics show that the number of volumes worn out is again quite large, and from this time will probably gradually increase until the number of volumes in the library is largely added to. The system of repairs, etc., inaugurated under the present administration. and which resulted last year in a large saving in the matter of longer service from the books, has reached the limit, and the old rate of withdrawals will again begin.

The library force has continued unchanged throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN M. STEWART,
CHAS. P. CARGILL,
L. M. SMITH,
Administration Committee.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1. 1900.

REPORT OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Gentlemen: Your committee on building and grounds submits herewith a report of the expenditures in the department under its charge during the year ending April 30, 1900, as required by the by-laws:

Rent	$ 50 00	
Janitor service	229 00	
Insurance	75 00	
Fuel	144 47	
Furniture	84 75	
Repairs	58 10	
Water	28 80	
Ice	5 65	$ 1,075 77

The increased expenditure for furniture was necessitated by the purchase of a new card-catalogue case. All expenditures were made on approval of the board of directors.

The resignation of David McKinney as janitor was accepted in October, the vacancy being filled by the appointment of F. G. Burgderfer.

As heretofore, the Park Commissioners and Park Superintendent Rau have agreed to furnish plants and flowers for the beautifying of the grounds.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,
J. B. RILEY,
Building and Grounds Committee.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1900.

(4)—DONATIONS.

Vols.	Nos.	Pamp.	NAME.
...	...	1	Aguilar Free Library, N. Y.
...	1	...	Amick, W. K., St. Joseph, Mo.
1	...	...	Atkinson, Edward, Brookline, Mass.
16	...	...	Bender, John C., St. Joseph, Mo.
1	...	...	Benjamin Franklin Statue Co., Philadelphia, Pa.
533	144	100	Bittinger, Maj. J. L., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	4	Board of Trustees, American Printing House for the Blind.
...	...	4	Boston Book Company, Boston, Mass.
...	...	3	Bronson Library, Waterbury, Conn.
...	...	1	Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn, Mass.
...	...	3	Buffalo Public Library, Buffalo, N. Y.
12	...	...	Bullard, Rev. Henry, St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	8	Canada Department of Agriculture.
...	...	1	Carnegie Free Library, Alleghany, Pa.

...	...	4	Carnegie Library, Homestead, Pa.
...	...	1	Chicago (Ill.) Public Library.
...	...	1	Cleveland (O.) Public Library.
...	...	2	Dayton (O.) Public Library.
...	...	1	Depew, Chauncey M., New York.
70	...	...	Doniphan, Col. John, St. Joseph, Mo.
75	...	...	Eckel, E. J., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	1	Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.
...	...	2	Erie (Pa.) Public Library.
...	...	1	Evanston (Ill.) Free Public Library.
...	...	1	Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.
...	...	1	Gloversville (N. Y.) Public Library.
...	...	1	Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library.
...	...	1	Guthrie, Dr. K. S., Oaklyn, N. J.
...	...	6	Hartford (Conn.) Public Library.
...	...	2	Helena (Mont.) Public Library.
10	...	...	Henry, Mrs., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	2	Holman, Glenn O., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	1	1	Houghton, Mifflin and Co., New York.
...	...	7	Indian Rights Association, Philadelphia, Pa.
...	...	1	James Prendergast Free Library, Jamestown, N. Y.
...	...	5	Jersey City (N. J.) Free Public Library.
...	...	1	Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library.
...	...	5	Lawrence (Mass.) Public Library.
...	...	2	Library Company of Philadelphia, Pa.
...	...	2	Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library.
...	...	1	Lynn (Mass.) Public Library.
...	...	5	Madison (Wis.) Public Library.
...	...	3	Melville, Commodore, Geo. W., Washington, D. C.
...	...	1	Mercantile Library, New York.
...	...	5	Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library.
...	...	1	National Education Association.
...	...	8	Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library.
...	...	1	Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.
...	...	8	New Haven (Conn.) Free Public Library.
...	...	2	Newton (Mass.) Free Public Library.
...	...	9	New York Public Library.
...	...	1	New York State College of Forestry.
...	...	1	Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.
...	...	6	Omaha (Neb.) Public Library.
...	...	...	Packard, Rev. W. F., St. Joseph, Mo., subscription to the Illustrated American Methodist Monthly.
...	1	4	Park College, Parkville, Mo.
...	...	1	Paterson (N. J.) Free Public Library.
...	...	1	Peabody Institute, Danvers, Mass.
...	...	8	Peoria (Ill.) Public Library.
...	...	6	Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.
...	...	11	Providence (R. I.) Public Library.

...	...	5	Quincy (Ill.) Public Library.
...	...	...	Rees, George, St. Joseph, Mo.
1	...	...	Rutt, Chris L., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	1	Salem (Mass.) Public Library.
...	...	6	San Francisco (Cal.) Public Library.
...	...	1	Scranton (Pa.) Public Library.
...	...	2	St. Louis (Mo.) Mercantile Library Association.
..	...	3	St. Louis, (Mo.) Public Library.
1	...	...	Taylor, C. F., Philadelphia, Pa.
2	600	...	Taylor, E. M., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	2	Toronto (Canada) Public Library.
...	...	2	Tufts Library, Weymouth, Mass.
2	...	...	Turner, Mrs. Thos., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	7	...	University of Missouri News Letter.
7	...	...	Warren, Mrs., St. Joseph, Mo.
...	...	3	Warren County (Ill.) Library and Reading Room Association.
...	6	...	White, H. K., St. Joseph, Mo.
2	...	...	Wild, E. O., St. Joseph, Mo. (and photos).
...	...	1	William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.
...	...	3	Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
...	...	2	Wisconsin Free Library Commission.
2	2	2	Wiziardi, Robert, St. Joseph, Mo.
2	...	...	Wood, Henry.

(5)—Bound Magazines in Reference Room.

American Electrician.
*American Historical Review.
*American Illustrated Methodist Magazine.
*American Journal of Politics. (Magazine of Civics.)
American Teacher, 1891-date.
*Arena.
Art Amateur.
Art Interchange.
Athenaeum (London).
*Atlantic Monthly.
*Author..
*Birds (And All Nature).
Blackwoods.
*Bookman.
*Bulletin of Bibliography.
*Century.
Chambers' Journal.
*Chautauquan.
Contemporary Review.
*Cosmopolitan.
Journal of Education.
*Land of Sunshine.
Library Journal.
Lippincott.
*Littell's Living Age.
*McClure's Magazine.
Macmillan's.
Magazine of Art.
*Magazine of American History.
Magazine of Western History.
*Missionary Review of the World.
*Munsey's Magazine. (Monthly).
Nation.
New England Magazine. (2d series complete).
New England Geneological and Historical Register.
Nineteenth Century.
North American Review.
Outing.
Outlook.
Overland

Critic.
*Current History.
*Current Literature.
Dial.
Eclectic Magazine. (2d series complete).
*Educational Review.
Fortnightly Review.
*Forum.
*Galaxy.
Godey's Lady's Book.
*Harper's Magazine.
Harper's Weekly.
Harper's Young People.
*Hours at Home.
Illustrated American.
Illustrated London News.
Illustrated News of the World.
Inland Printer.
*Popular Science.
Postal Record.
*Public Libraries.
Public Opinion.
*Putnam's Magazine.
*Review of Reviews.
School Journal.
Scientific American. 1856-date.
Scientific American Supplement.
*Scribner's Monthly.
*Scribner's Magazine.
Southern Magazine.
St. Nicholas.
Universal Review.
Western Electrician.
Westminster Review.
Wide Awake.
William and Mary College Quarterly.
*Complete sets.

List of Members of Library Board, 1890-1900.

Alphabetically Arranged.

Atwill J. W. .....1895-1898-1899-1900. (Unexpired term of J. DeClue.)
Bittinger, J. L. .....1890-1892.
Bullard Rev. Henry .....1895-1896. (Unexpired term of Rev. Foote).
Cargill, C. P. .....1899-date.
DeClue ,John .....1891-1899. (Died October 23, 1899).
Foote, H. L. .....1890-1895. (Resigned).
Getchell, H. G. .....1890-1893.
Gordon, W. H. .....1894-1897.
Hall, Willard P. .....1890-1891.
Hendley, G. W. .....1890-1896.
Hull, Mrs. G. C. .....1890. (Resigned).
Hull, G. C. .....1890-1895.....
Johnson, J. T. .....1890-1892.
Lawless, Rev. J. L. .....1896-1900. (Resigned).
Lemon, Mrs. J. S. .....1890. (Resigned).
McCord, S. H. .....1899-date...
McEvoy, Jas. A. .....1897-date.
Morlock, W. H. .....1895-1898.
Neeley, E. B. .....1890-1896.
Newburger, B. .....1890-1897.
Pfeiffer, C. A. .....1896-date.
Pitts, Dr. Barton .....1892-1898. ..
Riley, Dr. J. B. .....1898-date.
Schultz, C L. .....1892-1895.
Smith, Dr. J. F. .....1890. (Resigned).
Smith, L. M. .....1897-date.
Stewart, J. M. .....1898-date.
White, H. K. .....1896-date.

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

By vote of the people at the regular city election in April, 1890, the Free Public Library was ordered established. In the month of January preceding, a legal petition was presented to the Common Council, asking that the question of levying a tax of three-tenths of a mill for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a free public library be submitted to the voters. The ordinance submitting the question was passed by a unanimous vote, and, at the ensuing election, the proposition carried by a majority of 5,722.

FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Following the election, the first Board of Directors was appointed, consisting of Rev. H. L. Foote, E. B. Neeley, Willard P. Hall, H. G. Getchell, J. Francis Smith, B. Newburger, George W. Hendley, Mrs. J. S. Lemon and Mrs. George C. Hull. Rev. Foote was elected president, serving in that capacity until 1895, when he resigned on account of removing from the city; E. B. Neeley, vice-president; H. G. Getchell, secretary. After serving on the board but a short time, Mrs. Lemon, Mrs. Hull and Mr. Smith resigned, being succeeded by J. T. Johnson, George C. Hull and J. L. Bittinger. Rev. Henry Bullard succeeded to the presidency on the resignation of Rev. Foote, serving until the following June, when John DeClue was elected and filled the position until his death, October 23, 1899. He was succeeded by J. W. Atwill.

SUCCEEDS TO PROPERTY OF PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The St. Joseph Public Library Association, organized in 1887, had, through the efforts of Mrs. T. F. VanNatta, Mrs. George C. Hull, Mrs. John S. Lemon and others, accumulated 3,276 volumes, with some furniture. Upon the successful termination of the Free Public Library movement and the appointment of a Board of Directors, these were turned over to the Free Public Library, and still heads the list of donations in point of value. It is but just to say that it was the efforts of the ladies named above and their associates to establish and maintain a subscription library, the hard work they were doing, and the good resulting from the very limited means at command, which brought out the necessity for a library as a public charge.

LIBRARIANS.

Henry J. Carr of Grand Rapids, Mich., was appointed the first librarian, and assumed charge Oct. 16, 1890, remaining until August, 1891, when he accepted a similar position in the Scranton (Pa.) Public Library. The late George T. Wright, then a resident of California, was named to fill the vacancy, but declined, and Wm. H. Culver received the appointment. He resigned the following May, and Miss L. C. Senter was installed as acting librarian until July 10, 1892, when Henry L. Elmendorf was appointed librarian, serving until Sept. 30, 1896, when he, too, resigned, being succeeded by the present incumbent.

ATTEMPTS TO INCREASE LIBRARY REVENUES.

In 1895 an effort was made to increase the proportion of taxes for library purposes to one mill. The proposition, submitted at a regular election, was defeated, securing 3,179 votes, which was not a majority of the voters voting at the election. There were but 542 votes cast against it. In 1897 another attempt was made to increase the library tax, the amount asked for being six-tenths of a mill. Failing again to receive the required majority (3,583 for to 891 against), it was realized that under the existing library and election laws it would be all but impossible to again secure the necessary votes, and in 1898 a bill amending the library law was drafted and submitted to the state legislature. After several months of anxious work it became a law in June, 1899. Under the law as it now stands it is necessary to secure only a majority of those voting on the library proposition to establish a free public library or to increase a tax already ordered, instead of a majority of voters voting at the election on all propositions. The proposition may be submitted at a special election, if it is deemed advisable to remove it entirely from political entanglements. The law also provides for extending the use of a library to the citizens of the county in which it may be located by authorizing the county court to contract therefor, paying for the privilege from the regular county revenues. The county court of this county would have been asked to pass upon this question some time since, but that the movement which was inaugurated to this end was permitted to lapse on account of the new building proposition.

GROWTH, EXPENSE AND USE OF LIBRARY.

The following table shows the growth, expenses and use of the library, by years, since its establishment:

Year ending April 30	No. vols. in Library	Expenses	Circulation	Card Holders	Vols. Withdrawn
1891	5,510	$5,550 04	*7,876	1,546	....
1892	6,774	7,365 13	**92,342	3,882	9
1893	***9,713	7,029 08	92,714	3,840	110
1894	11,512	7,581 19	100,924	3,866	389
1895	12,859	7,146 15	108,892	4,103	204
1896	13,579	6,609 16	109,073	4,167	375
1897	14,839	8,238 12	120,853	4,347	720
1898	15,777	7,629 43	117,483	4,352	868
1899	17,226	7,261 10	x104,146	4,284	352
1900	18,382	7,674 96	109,939	4,608	909

*Circulating department opened March 16.

**Closed one week on account of removal.

***Government collection added from St. Joseph Mechanical Library Association.

xClosed two weeks by order board of health on account diphtheria epidemic.

LOCATION OF LIBRARY.

Until Nov. 10, 1890, the library occupied the second floor of the Samuels building, which had also been used by the Library Association, at Sixth and Charles streets. On the date named it was removed to Tenth and Sylvanie, its present location. The property selected as the site of the new library building, Tenth and Felix streets, is three blocks nearer the business portion of the city, convenient to street car lines, with no hill to climb.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE LIBRARY, 1899-1900.

Compiled by Miss Lulu C. Senter.

REPORTS.

Annual report for the year ending April 30, 1891, pp. 16.

Annual report for the year ending April, 1892. (In St. Joseph municipal report, 1892).

Annual report, 1893, pp. 14.

Annual report, 1894, pp. 12.

Annual report, 1895, pp. 11.

Annual report, 1896, pp. 12.

Annual report, 1897, pp. 18.

Annual report, 1898, pp. 24.

Annual report, 1899, pp. 19.

BY-LAWS.

By-Laws of the Free Public Library, 1890, pp. 11.

By-Laws of the Free Public Library, 1892, pp. 18.

By-Laws of the Free Public Library, 1897, pp. 23.

Rules and Regulations of the Free Public Library, 1891.

Rules and Regulations of the Free Public Library, 1897. (Revised.)

CATALOGS.

*Classified list, 1891.

Publisher's Note.—This present work is put forth by the publisher, not as an official issue of the Library, but as a personal enterprise; and mainly on the strength of the advertising liberally given by those firms and individuals who have thus assisted the venture. The list of books, and like information, has been supplied by the Library for the purpose; and such portions of the publication have received careful revision with a view to obtaining reasonable certainty.

*Note.—Compiled by Mr. H. J. Carr.

Supplement; October, 1892-1893, pp. 21.

Classified list of the circulating department, July, 1896, pp. 139.

Note.—Compiled by Mr. H. L. Elmendorf.

Supplement; July, 1896-April, 1898, pp. 27.

Note.—Compiled by present staff.

BULLETINS.

Bulletin No. 1, Aug. 10, 1894, pp. 4.
Bulletin No. 2, Oct. 20, 1894, pp. 3.
Bulletin No. 3, Jan. 2, 1895, pp. 3.
Bulletin, new series, No. 1. Jan. 1, 1897, pp. 4.
Bulletin, new series, No. 2, Mar. 1, 1897, pp. 4.
Bulletin, new series, No. 3, May 1, 1897, pp. 4.
Bulletin, new series, No. 4, July 1, 1897, pp. 4.
Bulletin, new series, No. 5, Nov. 15, 1897, pp. 6.
Bulletin, new series, Vol. 2, No. 1, Mar. 31, 1898, pp. 8.
Bulletin, new series, Vol. 2, No. 2, July 15, 1898, pp. 4.
Bulletin, new series, Vol. 2, No. 3, Oct. 31, 1898, pp. 4.
Bulletin, new series, Vol. 2, No. 4, Feb. 1, 1899, pp. 4.
Bulletin, new series, Vol. 3, No. 1. May, 1899, pp. 4.
Bulletin, new series, Vol. 3, No. 2, Aug., 1899, pp. 4.
Bulletin, new series, Vol. 3, No. 3, Nov. 1899, pp. 4.

SPECIAL READING LISTS.

One hundred good novels.

Special reading list—Electricity, No. 1.

Special reading list—Electricity, No. 2.

Books on Spain and Cuba.

Books on naval warfare.

Special reading list—Books about heroes, including famous boys, girls, men and women.

Special reading list for pupils of the first, second and third grades, St. Joseph public schools; 1898.

Reading list for school and home for pupils of the St. Joseph public schools, grades four to eight; 1899.

Books for business men.

Books for mechanics—general.

Mechanical works—for shop men.

Alphabetical List of Employes—1890-1900.

Name.	Office	Appointed	Resigned
*Bushnell, Stella M.	Assistant	Feb. 11, 1896	Feb. 24, 1898
Carr, H. J.	Librarian	Oct. 16, 1890	July 8, 1891
Culver, W. H.	Librarian	July 18, 1891	May 1, 1892
Douglas, Susie	Assistant	May 7, 1892	Dec. 1, 1892
Elmendorf, H. L.	Librarian	July 1, 1892	Oct. 1, 1896
Hendley, Mattie	Assistant	Sept. 1891	Feb. 22, 1894
Irwin, Grace	Sub-Assistant	July, 1891	Aug., 1891
*Martin, Eudora	Assistant	July 20, 1896	
Merriman, Erle	Stenographer	Nov. 23, 1893	
Merriman, Erle	Assistant	Feb. 22, 1894	July 20, 1896
Norton, John	Messenger	Aug. 12, 1897	Feb. 1, 1899
*Olds, Miranda M.	Assistant	Feb. 24, 1898	
Perry, Annie M.	Assistant	Feb. 13, 1891	
Rathbun, Cornelia L.	Assistant	Dec. 18, 1890	
Ritner, Kaliope	Assistant	Feb. 22, 1894	March 1, 1896
Russell, Mrs. A. J.	Assistant	June 28, 1890	Died March, 1891
Van Valkenburg, Agnes	Assistant	Jan. 27, 1891	May, 1891
Senter, Lulu C.	Assistant Lib.	Feb. 13, 1891	
Whitmore, Roy	Messenger	Feb. 1, 1899	
Wright, Purd B.	Librarian	October 1, 1896.	

*From Library Training Class.

JANITORS.

Ball, Howard, colored	Janitor	Dec. 18, 1890	Sept., 1891
Burgderfer, Frank G.	Janitor	Nov. 1, 1899	
McKinney, David, colored	Janitor	Sept., 1891	Nov. 1, 1899

PRESENT TRAINING CLASS, 1900.

Elam, Magnolia. Peterman, Minnie P.

THE NEW BUILDING.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo.

Gentlemen: Your committee appointed to act with a similar committee of the School Board in reference to the Public Library Building, respectfully submits the following detailed report:

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, January 11, 1900, the following resolution, offered by Charles A. Pfeiffer, was adopted by a unanimous vote:

"Whereas, The work of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph is seriously hampered through its location, lack of proper rooms and facilities for economical administration; and,

"Whereas, The greater portion of the work of said library is, and by right should be, with the teachers and pupils of the schools of said city; and,

"Whereas, The value of the library as an educational medium and its great helpfulness to the schools aforesaid is now being fully recognized by those in charge thereof and the public generally; therefore, be it

"Resolved, By the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, That a committee consisting of three members of this body be appointed by the president to confer with the Board of Education of said city, looking to the securing of a library and school office building commensurate with the importance of the work sought to be accomplished, and a credit to the city, by the issue of bonds by said Board of Education (as permitted by the law under which it is operating), to the amount of $100,000; and, further, that the said Board of Education be and is hereby requested to submit to the voters of this district, at as early a date as possible, the question of issuing said bonds for the purpose designated.

"Resolved, further, That said committee is authorized and empowered to conduct all negotiations with said Board of Education in relation to securing the issue of said bonds, plans for building, location of same, expense of maintaining, etc., reports of progress to be made to this body from time to time for approval.

"The fact that no rented building, conveniently located and suitable for library purposes, within the means of the Library Board, is likely to be secured, is deemed sufficient ground for prompt action on this matter."

The president appointed as such committee, Charles A. Pfeiffer, H. K. White and John M. Stewart.

At an adjourned meeting of the Board of Education, Feb. 8, the committee presented the above resolution. After its consideration, that body adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, The Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph has petitioned this body, by resolution, asking that the question of issuing $100,000 in bonds, the proceeds from the sale of which are to be used in the purchase of grounds and the erection thereon of a library and school office building, be submitted to the voters of this school district at an early day; and

"Whereas, The members of the Board of Education are cognizant of the educational work being done by the Free Public Library, its close association with all school matters, the difficulties under which it is laboring, and the powerless condition of the directors thereof in so far as providing money for a suitable building is concerned, and believing that it is not only to the best interests of the schools, but to all of the people of the city that a creditable home for the library and school offices be provided, are in hearty accord with the plan; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the Board of Education of the City of St. Joseph favors the submission of the question of issuing bonds for a library and school office building in the sum of $100,000 at an election to be held in said district hereafter.

"Resolved, further, That a committee consisting of three members of this Board is hereby directed to be appointed by the president, whose duty it shall be to consult with the committee appointed by the Library Board in relation to the election and means for getting the question properly before the people, and in connection with said committee, to arrange for the plans for said building, the location thereof, the terms upon which it shall be jointly occupied and any other matters of like nature. Reports to be made from time to time to this body for consideration and approval. The attorney of this Board is directed to aid such joint committee in the preparation of necessary resolutions for the proper submission of the question to the people."

J. C. Wyatt, K. M. Mitchell and I. T. Hosea were appointed the school committee under the resolution.

On the 20th day of February, at a meeting of the Board of Education, a special election was called for March 31 to vote upon the proposition of issuing bonds. At the election but 3,073 votes were cast, 2,512 being for the proposition, and 561 against.

Immediately after the favorable vote upon the question of the issuance of bonds, the joint committee called for propositions for a site, and the School Board invited proposals for bonds. Offerings for the bonds were numerous, and the issue in which we are interested has sold at a premium of Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty ($4,850.00) Dollars, being upon the basis of interest at the rate of 3.43 per cent.

We found that a large majority of the people interested in the selection of the site, seemed to be in favor of erecting the Library Building in Smith Park, especially as it was thought by nearly all of these persons that in this way a site could be obtained without cost.

The joint committee appointed a sub-committee, consisting of one member of the Board of Education, and two members of your committee, to investigate the questions involved, and as it was suggested that there

might be legal difficulties in the way of using a portion of Smith's Park for this purpose, this sub-committee considered this question with considerable care, and made a report to the joint committee, substantially as follows:

"We find that on March 20th, 1855, F. W. Smith filed in the office of the recorder of deeds of Buchanan County, Missouri, a plat in which the park now known as Smith's Park, was called 'Smith's Park.' In the dedication attached to this plat, Mr. Smith declared that the lots and blocks as bounded on the within plat are intended for sale, 'that the public square, streets and alleys as they appear and are bounded as they are set forth on the plat, are intended for public uses, and the same I do hereby give, grant, allot, transfer and dedicate to the public for public uses forever.'

"It is plain that different public uses were intended for different parts of the ground, thus dedicated. No one could contend that the streets and alleys could be used for a park, and it is similarly plain that the park could not be used for a street. In the case of Prince against Thompson, 48 Missouri, 361, the City of Brookfield was enjoined from running a street through a park which had been dedicated in terms similar to those used by Mr. Smith. It remains, therefore, to consider whether or not the use of the Park for the Library Building is one consistent with the dedication of the aforesaid park.

"In the case of the M. E. Church vs. Hoboken, 33 N. J. Law 131, it is said that a 'square' or 'park,' as a term of dedication, imparts unrestricted abandonment to public uses of grounds for amusement and recreation or health. This definition has been accepted and used, in both editions of the American and English Encyclopedia of Law.

"In the case of the Village of Princeville vs. Auten, 77 Illinois 325, it is said that where there is no express grant to a county, it cannot erect public buildings on a public square unless authorized by a custom of the country, or usage, to which all citizens are willing to assent as to a positive enactment, and that the County had no more right than an individual to disturb the right of the enjoyment of the public, by erecting a building thereon. The square spoken of in this case was not specifically dedicated as a square or park, the purpose not being indicated on the plat, but the purposes of the dedication were made clear by oral testimony. A town school had been proposed thereon, but the measure was defeated, and in this case the court enjoined the erection of a town hall thereon.

"The act which provided for the platting of the City of Detroit provided that certain places left at the intersection of streets where eight or twelve would intersect each other, were to be left for certain public purposes, such as fire houses, parks, schools, such as the City Council might at any time designate. Streets were not mentioned in the act as one of the public uses. The City Council designated one of these places as a park, and it had been so used for several years when the Council proposed to erect a library building thereon. An injunction was asked, but the Supreme Court held that the park site might be used as a library site. Afterward the City of Detroit attempted to open a street through one of these places which had been given previously for school purposes, but the

court held that the first case merely permitted the change of use from one public purpose to another of those designated by the act, and that the council could not extend a street through ground used for educational purposes, because, it was not one of the public uses named in the act. Board of Education vs. Detroit 30, Michigan 510.

"A later case from Mississippi decides that where ground was dedicated for a park it could not be used for the erection of a school house, and the donors were allowed to bring an injunction suit to prevent such use. Rowzee vs. Pierce 23, Southern 397.

"The Missouri case affecting the Brookfield Park, indicates that the Missouri Supreme Court is inclined to construe dedications of this character strictly. In a later case in 1890 the Supreme Court of this state held that a deed given by the City of Girardeau to the Board of Regents of the State Normal School, purporting to convey to them a piece of ground in that city, which had been dedicated for the establishment of a public school was invalid, although the Normal School is very largely supported by public grants of money, and was a part of the public school system. In the opinion the court says, (citing to the Brookfield case, and other Missouri cases) the City of Cape Girardeau may control and regulate the use of the property, but it has no right to devote the same to private uses, or to public uses different from those specified in the deed. Where land has been dedicated to specified, limited and defined purposes the subject of the grant cannot be used for another and a different purpose. Board of Regents vs. Painter, 102 Missouri loc. cit. 470.

"The New Jersey case above,referred to which gives the definition of a park, is cited approvingly as to diversion of property from uses for which it was dedicated. No opinion was expressed to the term park, as the case does not call for such expression.

"In a very early case, Post vs. Pearsall, 22 Wend. 473, it was said that when a dedication is made, individuals are invited to build, improve, and make their arrangements of life and business in reference to such public right, and the Court held that abutting property holders could restrain the diversion of a public use. This ruling has been followed in numerous cases since.

"The use of the Park for our proposed Library Building would be use for educational purposes, not for purposes of amusement and recreation, and therefore, in our view would be a diversion from the original purposes.

"There are numerous other cases which we have not stated, where private buildings have been held to be nuisances when erected on grounds dedicated for public purposes. The above are practically all the cases which indicate that the same rule applies to public buildings, but in view of the declaration of the Illinois Court above noted, that the public has no more right to put its buildings in a park than it has to permit private individuals to do so, it would appear that there is an undoubted right of the property holders adjacent to the Park, and of the heirs of Mr. Smith, to prevent such erection by injunction. The property would not revert to

the Smith heirs as in the case of abandonment, but the only remedy would be by injunction, and if they should see fit to bring such suit, it is our opinion that the injunction would be granted."

Signed:

"K. M. MITCHELL.
"H. K. WHITE.
"JOHN M. STEWART."

Upon reading this report from the sub-committee, the joint committee voted that inasmuch as it was not advised that the heirs of Mr. Smith, and the adjacent property holders would give their consent to the use of the park for the location of the library building site, it was not advisable to consider the question further.

In answer to the request for offerings, about thirty sites were submitted in different parts of the city, from Messanie street on the south to a point above Robidoux on the north, and from Fifth street on the west to Eleventh on the east. Two of the offers were out and out gifts, but in each case the committee felt unanimously that the sites offered were not sufficiently central. Three of the sites would in most respects seem very desirable, but after a discussion of the needs of the Board as to size of the building, we came to the conclusion that these three sites were not sufficiently large. The committee felt that the site not only should be central now, but chosen with reference to future growth of the city, and that while close to the business portions of the town, it should not be on a noisy street. So much complaint has been made in the past of the exertion required to reach the present library site, that the committee felt that the place chosen should be one where accessibility should be considered, rather than one where the building could be observed at a distance.

As a result of visiting all the sites, and several full consultations, the committee unanimously selected the property offered by the heirs of James C. Roberts, situated at the northwest corner of Tenth and Felix streets. These lots front 120 feet on Tenth street, with a side frontage of 140 feet on Felix street. The Directors of the Public Schools have bought this property at the price of Eleven Thousand Dollars, and will at once invite proposals for plans for a building which it is hoped will be commensurate with the present and future wants and prosperity of our city.

Respectfully submitted,

C. A. PFEIFFER,
J. M. STEWART,
H. K. WHITE,
Committee.

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